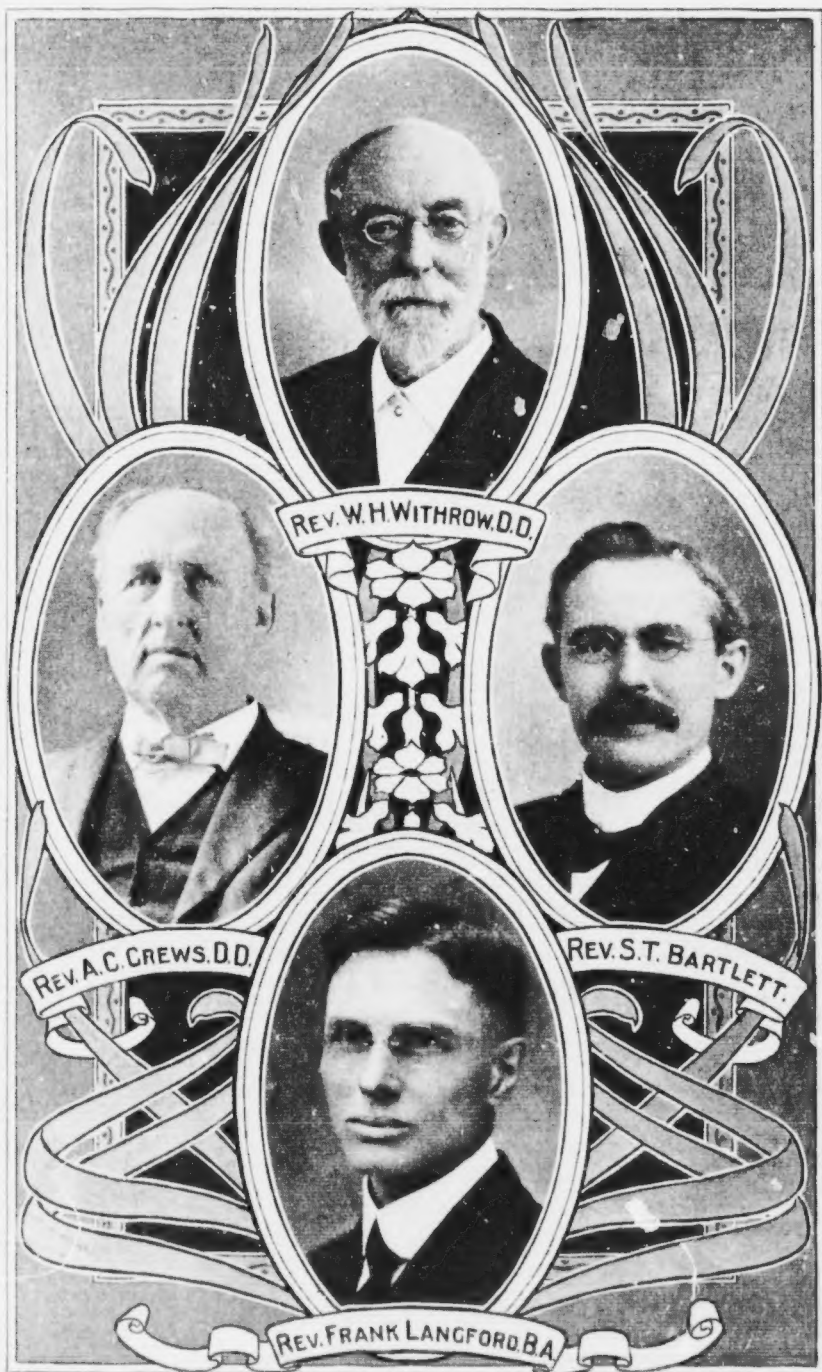


• *The* CANADIAN • EPWORTH LEAGUER



H. D. TRESIDDER



THE GENERAL SECRETARIES.

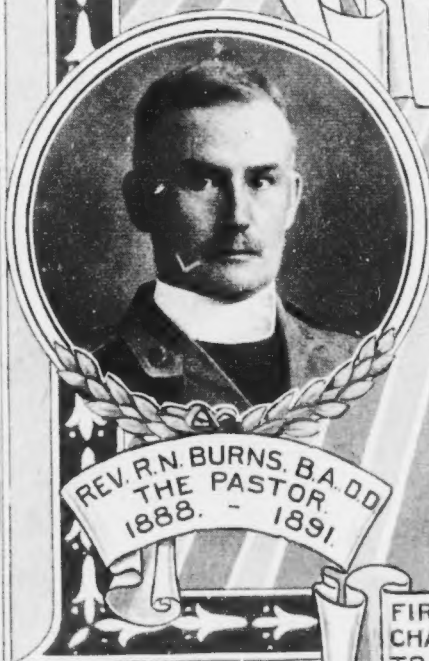
Rev. W. H. Withrow, D.D., 1889-1895; Rev. A. C. Crews, D.D., 1895-1909;
Rev. S. T. Bartlett, 1909-1919; Rev. Frank Langford, B.A., 1919-



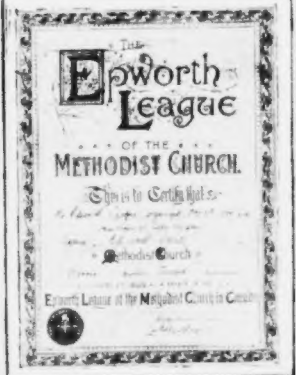
WHERE THE EPWORTH
LEAGUE BEGAN IN
CANADA. 1889.



ELIZABETH STREET
METHODIST CHURCH
BARRIE. 1920.



REV. R.N. BURNS, B.A. DD
THE PASTOR.
1888. - 1891.



FIRST EPWORTH LEAGUE
CHARTER ISSUED IN CANADA
TO ELIZABETH ST. SOCIETY,
BARRIE ONT. - 1889.

THE CANADIAN EPWORTH LEAGUER

BY

HERBERT DEAN TRESIDDER
TORONTO

PUBLISHED WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE
GENERAL BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS
AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH,
CANADA

REV. FRANK LANGFORD, B.A.,
General Secretary

THE METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE
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1920

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P777

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The Pledges

Senior League Active Members

"Trusting in the help of the Holy Spirit, I promise that I shall follow the example of my Saviour and Lord, and make an honest effort daily, in all things, to do the will of God, my Heavenly Father."

Associate Members

"As an Associate Member I subscribe to the Constitution of the Epworth League, and shall endeavor to promote its interests and sustain its character as a Christian Society."

Junior League

"Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise that I will try to follow Him, that I may learn to do the will of God my Heavenly Father in all things."



The Epworth League Emblem.

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INTRODUCTION.

A good many years ago Dr. Crews gave to the young people of the Methodist Church his little book entitled, "Practical Plans." A very great deal of helpfulness was concentrated between the covers of that little book, and Canadian Epworth Leaguers took advantage of it. For some years, however, this book has been out of print, and nothing has been provided to take its place until this present volume was written. Meantime, the Young People's Societies of the Methodist Church have undergone a gradual evolution. At the present moment there is very great need for a book which will educate and inspire the young people of the Methodist Church for more efficient and devoted service through the Epworth Leagues and other Young People's organizations. It is a personal pleasure, therefore, for me to introduce the "Canadian Epworth Leaguer" to the young people of Canadian Methodism. It is absolutely the only book of its kind in its field in Canada, and therefore it is more immediately applicable to the needs of Canadian Epworth Leagues than any other book in print to-day. I bespeak for it a warm welcome and a wide circulation.

FRANK LANGFORD.

General Secretary.

"Instead of the Thorn shall
grow up the Fir Tree."

TO OUR EPWORTH LEAGUERS.

Canadian Methodism and Canadian national life owe much to the Epworth League. Thousands of young people, during the past thirty years, have passed through the League, trained, prepared, and willing to undertake the responsibilities of the Church and promote Christian standards of citizenship. The Epworth League to-day provides in its comprehensive programme an adequate training for meeting present-day conditions and responsibilities.

The following tribute to the value of the Epworth League was given by a leader in another denomination, after a meeting of the National Campaign: "Our laymen do not seem to be able to speak freely in discussion, nor take their part in giving addresses, while the Methodist laymen do both easily and effectively, the result of the training they have received in the Epworth League."

This book is intended to be inspirational, leading our young people into a fuller realization of the true worth and work of the Young People's Department of the local church and of the worth and adaptability of the Epworth League to every phase of church and community service.

It shows how the blessing of God does rest upon "organized effort" carried out by young people consecrated to the service of Jesus Christ.

It does not teach that **organization** of itself will succeed, but that **organized effort** is used by the Holy Spirit to accomplish His purpose.

Every method and programme is capable of success in our Canadian Leagues. The suggestions are made only as a general guide, intended to promote initiative in the interests of better Christian service.

Success in League work is dependent upon different methods in different Leagues. In the administration of the several departments of the League, methods must be adapted to the



Introduction.

character and conditions of the community in which the League is situated. With this in mind, the plan of the Epworth League will be found to be practically acceptable. The object will be: in each community emphasize whatever is distinctly characteristic as the League's opportunity.

To this end this book is sent out, and our prayer is that under the blessing of God it will contribute to the good of our young people, "for Christ and the Church."

H. D. TRESIDDER.

But Once

I shall pass through
this world but
once  Any
good therefore that
I can do or any kind-
ness that I can show
to any human being
let me do it now 
Let me not defer or
neglect it, for I shall
not pass this way again

"AND IT CAME TO PASS."*

It is interesting, if sometimes difficult, to trace the beginnings of things, especially of large movements of people.

Some think that the germ of the Epworth League was in the Holy Club at Oxford. Many of the elements of a successful League were present in that club—young people organized to develop a better life by means of regular meetings for study and earnest prayer, and also by helping others, especially the unfortunate and needy.

From that day, in many lands and in different churches, pastors interested in developing the life, character and service of young people, have organized societies with these purposes in view but with great varieties of constitution.

The great weakness of these societies was that they were not related to one another by common standards and ideals, and did not have the stimulus of co-operating enterprises, inspiring conventions and connexional control.

In the Methodist churches of the United States there were four or five Young People's Societies with different names and characteristics. Not one of them seemed to be broad enough to appeal successfully to the majority of the young people.

True connexional spirit and the dominant desire to do the most good to the most young people resulted in the getting together of representatives of these separate societies on May 14th, 1889, in Cleveland, Ohio. For two days there was much discussion, each section of representatives eagerly urging the excellencies of their own organization. Through all the sessions there was much prayer and unmistakable leadership of the Holy Spirit, resulting at last in the framing of an outline constitution, containing the best features of the societies repre-

*The following article has been contributed by the Rev. R. N. Burris, B.A., D.D., who organized the first Epworth League Society in Canada to receive a charter, and who also organized the first District Convention to be held in Canada. Both of these were organized in Elizabeth St. Church, Barrie—H. D. 1

Introduction.

sented, with more ample plans and aggressive methods for leadership and united action.

The new organization caught on with growing enthusiasm, mainly because it met a long-felt need.

Pastors and officials in Canadian Methodism heard of this happy, united action, and felt that it was worthy of imitation. As a proof that the best old people really love the young people and want to help them forward, it should be remembered that one of the youngest old men, a Sunday-school superintendent in Barrie, who had been watching this movement in the States, sent for the literature and placed it at the disposal of his new pastor who came to the charge the July following the enthusiastic inauguration of the Epworth League in the States. The new society appealed to the pastor because of its breadth of plan in providing for the development of young people in all parts of their nature and life, and especially because the spiritual aims dominated and gave strength to all departments.

In September a meeting was held, resulting in prompt organization of a League in the Elizabeth St. Methodist Church, Barrie, Ont. This was the first League in Canada to receive the Canadian Epworth League charter. In October the young people of Barrie and Collingwood Districts were called together in a convention held in the Barrie church, to study and promote the new organization.

Rev. Dr. W. H. Withrow was invited to attend and speak. Soon after he called a mass meeting in the Metropolitan Church, Toronto, which gave publicity and impetus to the organization of the League throughout Canada.

Societies multiplied rapidly and demanded the fostering care of the Church, local and general. Because of the existence of interdenominational Christian Endeavor Societies, a problem presented itself to the General Conference, which was wisely settled by approving of the plan for voluntary and not compulsory affiliation, so that any League could call itself an "Epworth League of Christian Endeavor" and thus maintain a double relationship if it chose.

The many-sided nature of the League's activities has been one of its strong points, but coherence and permanence have

Introduction.

been given by the dominance of its spiritual aims. The League organized in Barrie in 1889 was begun and continued with this idea in full view, and it still lives while other Leagues, which were organized with larger membership and greater initial enthusiasm, but exalted the literary and social to the chief place, went out of existence in a year.

Both the continuance and the highest efficiency of the League depend upon its loyalty to the objects expressed in the general and local constitution.

It is most fortunate in its motto and emblem. It bids all "Look up and Lift up," with the added motto of the Christian Endeavor, "For Christ and the Church."

Its emblem is the Maltese Cross, the points of which formerly were used to symbolize the eight Beatitudes.

The highest ambition of every Leaguer is to—

"Lift high the Cross for His dear sake,
That Cross with Epworth colors drape;
The red, the blood of Calvary;
The white for love and purity.
March on! nor lay the challenge down
Till ev'ry hamlet, by-way, town
Has seen the Epworth flag unfurled
And Epworth hands reach round the world."

The League stands for the highest ideals and the noblest service. It has not always realized these, and its progress has sometimes fluctuated. It has this justification—that better than any other organization in our Church it is meeting a great need amongst our young people.

Worship, instruction, spiritual fellowship, general church activities, all these are needed by both old and young. In addition to these, there is amongst young people some trace of the gang spirit of youth that calls for separate comradeship and training under conditions that mean greater freedom and enthusiasm.

The large and lasting results that have been accomplished by the League are its best justification. The testimony of one of its leaders is none too strong: "Every activity of the Church, every outgoing of Christly service, every element in the upbuilding of strong and symmetrical Christian character, every interest of the Kingdom of God, has been blessed and

Introduction.

profited through the providential use and spread of the Epworth League throughout the Methodist world."

In Canada it has meant the making of Christian service more attractive, the promotion of general culture and Bible study, a wider and more practical conception of the mission of Christianity, an intelligent missionary enthusiasm and enterprise expressing itself, especially in the Young People's Forward Movement for missions, a call to the earlier confession of Christ, a new crusade for the Kingdom, and the training of Church workers and high-type citizens.

May it mean these more and more. The call of this great new day is for an organized rally of all the youthful forces, for the most thorough training and wise leadership, and for unwavering loyalty, heroic enthusiasm and eager aggressiveness in hastening the coming of Christ's Kingdom.

Our Great Commander wants to see what can be done, not only by great leaders, but by a generation of young, trained followers, who will obey His commands to the utmost.

Every act we do, every word we utter, the way in which we spend any moments of our time, is either a fragment of gold, silver or precious stones, or of wood, hay or stubble, built into a rising structure, the erection of which is entrusted to us—our character.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE HYMN.

Ye hosts of Christians, young and strong,
And leagued in war against the wrong,
What triumphs lie within your scope,
And for the Church what pow'r, what hope!
Put on God's armor, burnished bright;
With Truth's strong sword be armed for fight:
Let "All for Christ and Christ for all!"
Ring from your lips the battle call.

Then follow Him and His commands,
Go preach His word in heathen lands!
Look up, lift up the poor, the weak;
For burdened souls in kindness seek.
In cheerless homes leave bright'ning flow'rs,
Sweet comfort give in dark'ning hours;
In times of stress your voices raise
In pray'rs of faith and songs of praise.

Lift high the cross for His dear sake,
That cross with Epworth colors drape:
The red, the blood of Calvary;
The white for love and purity.
March on, nor lay the challenge down
Till ev'ry hamlet, by-way, town,
Has seen the Epworth flags unfurled
And Epworth hands reach round the world.

No. 173 in the New Canadian Hymnal.

The Epworth League **GOD'S PLAN** for Young Methodism

GOD REQUIRES

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy HEART, SOUL, MIND and STRENGTH"

The League "Object" aims to develop these through the Four Departments by Organized Committees

HEART —	Positive Christian Experience.	1. CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR DEPT. Promote Spiritual Welfare. Winning Others to Christ. Reclaim the Indifferent. Make Christian Life Attractive.	Committees: 1. Lookout. 2. Evangelistic. 3. Prayer Meeting. 4. Sunday School. 5. Visiting and Relief.
SOUL —	Manifested by Earnestness in World-wide Service. Fervent. Glowing.	2. MISSIONARY DEPT. Extend Gospel to Every Land. World-wide Vision and Intercession. Directing Missionary Ideals and Enterprises.	Committees: 1. Prayer. 2. Literature. 3. Programmc. 4. Mission Study. 5. Stewardship.
MIND —	To KNOW God. Moulding Intellect. Purity of Thought. Right Attitude of Mind.	3. LITERARY and SOCIAL DEPT. Promote Bible Reading and Study. Promote Reading of Good Literature. Cultivate Christian Fellowship and Social Interests.	Committees: 1. Bible Study. 2. Literary. 3. Social. 4. Floral.
STRENGTH —	Practical Community Service. Development of Body and Mind by Sports.	4. CITIZENSHIP DEPT. Promote Good Citizenship in Character and Interest. Promote Social Service and National Righteousness.	Committees: 1. Patriotic. 2. Political. 3. Temperance. 4. Moral Reform. 5. Athletics.

Each department specializes in setting a high standard for the members to follow, the whole comprising a plan for the complete development of Christian Character and Service.

5 JUNIOR LEAGUE DEPT.

Promoting the same idea. Winning the Boys and Girls for Christ and greater League and Church Service.

RESULT—

"Thou SHALT love thy neighbor as thyself."—OTHERS.
Development of Christian Character and Service.

CHAPTER I.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The Epworth League is a young people's organization, planned to be a spiritual force, with every department adhering to the policy of making their activities work out the object of the society.

The Epworth League encourages the using of those youthful energies which delight in development, directing them into channels of service suitable to their disposition and ability, harnessing their Christian principles to their opportunities.

The Epworth League organizes these forces so that the maximum of efficiency in individual and combined service is assured.

The Epworth League develops individual initiative, personal responsibility, ability for spontaneous service.

The Epworth League may be organized as one society, or it may have the three-fold plan as mentioned below, the reason for which is that it may be adapted to the largest constituency in Canadian Methodism; or any one of the three may be used by itself in the smallest centre.

The local senior constitution would apply to the Senior and Intermediate League. The Junior League, the fifth department of the Senior League, has its own constitution, and Rev. S. T. Bartlett's "Junior League Hand-Book," published by the Book Room, should be consulted in the organization.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE IDEA.

- 1st. The Junior League, for the children under 12 years.
- 2nd. The Intermediate League or Canadian Standard Efficiency Training and Canadian Girls in Training groups, for those between 13 and say 18.
- 3rd. The Senior League, for those over that age.

Where this division is not practicable, the Junior League and the Senior League may be used—the age limit, or "promotion time," being arranged by the Executive, but about 15

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

or 16 years being the highest age of a Junior. It is advisable in organizing the young people for Epworth League work, to co-relate the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Leagues, each according to the regular constitution. Recognize the Junior as the fifth department of the Senior, and where there is an Intermediate, it too might very well be related to the Senior society as a sixth department. The definite separation of the Junior or the Intermediate from the Senior League provides a more easy "get-away" for the 'teen age young people.

The Epworth League presents, in attractive and easy form, many avenues of service from which the member may make a choice. The League must get out of its membership service, even if that service in many instances is crude. The Juniors delight in working on "departments." Specialization in this phase of League work will be productive of remarkable results, in present and future Church service. It is here that the first lessons in leadership are learned. How careful should be the planning and supervision! The kindly and practical interest of the minister is so much needed and is always appreciated.

The League divisions afford sufficient opportunities through study, service and social influence, for the development of the four-fold commitment to God: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul, mind and strength"; and assures a fulfilling of our obligation to others, implied by "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

A study of the Epworth League idea and consulting the chart entitled "God's Plan," will indicate that it is a providential provision for the training of young Methodism. It is the Church's efficient training ground. The League is necessary if Methodism is to retain her place in denominational leadership.

Two things particularly vitalize the League: 1st, the power of God in the character of its members; and 2nd, their devoted, divinely-empowered, organized service for God and humanity. These are obtained by observing the following essentials:

- 1st. **Personal commitment of the individual to God.**
- 2nd. **Building up the membership in personal Christian experience.**
- 3rd. **Training for service.**

See page 101

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

These are all provided for in the following four-fold "purpose" of the League:

Article 2—Object:

- 1st. To lead young people to Christ.
- 2nd. To promote an earnest, intelligent, practical Christian life in the young members and friends of the Church.
- 3rd. To assist them in the study of God's word.
- 4th. To increase their usefulness in the service of God and humanity.

A fifth phase is suggested—To guide them in wholesome social enjoyment and practice.

The following five-fold departmental plan of the local League provides for the complete working out of this object, and is the most unique and effective arrangement for young people's work in existence to-day:—

The Christian Endeavor Department is intended to promote the fundamental teachings of Jesus, and encourage the consecration of life and talent to Him.

The Missionary Department is intended to promote interest in missions at home and abroad, by prayer, study, giving, and doing if opportunity affords.

The Literary and Social Department is intended to promote interest in the Bible, good literature, Church history, etc., and to cultivate Christian fellowship, providing edifying social activities.

The Citizenship Department is intended to bring the life of the community into accord with the social programme of Jesus by supporting all that contributes to good citizenship, in municipal, provincial or dominion wide information, legislation or work, to encourage effort toward social betterment and to direct athletics of a nature consistent with the Christian life.

An Intermediate League should be organized along the four department plan as outlined above, or in separate boy and girl groups, taking Canadian Standard Efficiency Training and Canadian Girls in Training programmes.

The Junior League Department is to enroll the children of Jesus, lead and train them in Christian service, and retain them for Christ and the Church.

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

We believe that the active member's pledge, personal testimony, and systematic committee work are absolutely necessary for success.

The Epworth League was designed to be a force in Methodism. But, to fulfill its function, the League must be "built" from the ground up—constructed according to a plan adapted to the requirements of the local church. Every church needs a League in order to assure effective service from the young people. The following article from a recent issue of "The Church School," is worth noting here:—

"Young people merely want something real and worth while to do, not something devised merely to keep them busy or to give them educative exercise. The Church must call them to activity. For them the Church's programme must be three-fold, including worship, instruction, and service, but with this age especially the opportunity "to serve" must be emphasized.

"Young people want the opportunity to exercise initiative, use discretion and bear responsibility in the tasks which are assigned to them or which they undertake.

"The Church should therefore invite its young people to share in its general programme of service to the community and the world, and to assume responsibility for definite aspects or areas of that programme. It should make these young people feel that it regards them not primarily as a field to be cultivated or developed, but as a force to be enlisted.

"With this in view, careful enquiry should be made as to what phases of the Church work can be done best by young people. On the basis of this enquiry the programme of the young people should be constructed.

"Each local church should do this for itself and construct its own young people's programme, in view of the conditions within the church and community."

How to proceed with this undertaking is what we are now interested in.

Of course it is necessary to co-operate with the pastor. The pastor of the local church is a most important part of his church's organization and will give it every possible assistance. But, should the services of the pastor not be easily obtained, the young people must rely on their own resources.

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ability, but with the approval of the pastor, modifying the following suggested plan accordingly:—

How to Organize.

- a. The pastor should secure the concern and support of the church official board. This is not a difficult matter. A committee from the Board, together with the pastor, should study out the Epworth League constitution, and discuss and decide upon the best way and means of promoting the idea in the local church.
- b. Call a young people's meeting of all under 25 years of age, being sure to invite the 'teen age boys and girls and present the whole matter of a Five-Department League organization. Get a president from some enthusiastic League to address the meeting. Invite the District and Conference League officers who may be available. Have a supply of constitutions on hand, which may be obtained without charge from the General Secretary, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.
- c. Give the young people an opportunity to ask questions. And be sure to answer them. Encourage a general discussion.
- d. Take a vote, using typewritten slips, on the question:—

The idea of an Epworth League appeals to me, and if one is organized I will assist in maintaining it to the very best of my ability.

Yes.....No.....

Name.....

- e. Take the names of all present who voted favorably as Charter members.
- f. Announce clearly the organization meeting for the next week and proceed.
- g. On the following Sunday have a "Young People's Day." Invite especially to young people. Announce well at church

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

services and Sunday school regarding the coming young people's organization meeting.

The Organization Meeting.

Arrange for a good leader, preferably the pastor. Arrange for splendid singing, with a good pianist. Use some special hymns selected from the New Canadian Hymnal, such as "Sound the Battle Cry" and the Epworth League hymn, No. 173. Have as many young people as possible take part in prayer and otherwise. Then proceed according to the following programme:

Opening devotions.

Pastor's address on the League.

Elections by ballot. (See Local Constitution, Art. 5, Nos. 1, 2 and 3.)

Inauguration. Arrange some special ceremony, with dedication, securing support from those present by means of some manifestation of consecration.

Short addresses from officers elected.

Have a roll book with pledge included, which may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto. Call the names one by one, the members coming forward and signing the pledge book. An Epworth League emblem button and a constitution should be given to each member.

Close with a short address or discussion on the pledge.

The new executive should meet for organization, arrangement of departments, and consideration of the weekly topic programmes without delay, proceeding as much as possible, according to the Epworth League constitution. (See page 17.)

The provision for the Junior League should be among the first things planned, consulting "The Junior League Handbook."

For new members, the regular pledge cards provided for either Junior or Senior work ought to be used. The "Christian Guardian," the Epworth Leaguer's church paper, should be subscribed for by each officer. The membership should also be canvassed for subscriptions.

Maintain a pledged membership. Display a Wall Pledge for either Junior or Senior Leagues.

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

Create at the very beginning the idea of winning others to Jesus and His service and the League will grow in interest, membership, and results. The officers for planning and leadership, true, but use the members freely in programmes and work, and altogether they will develop in Christian character and service.

May we see our duty clearly, think and plan largely, spend ourselves even unto sacrifice, for by so doing we shall save our young people. Our service should be characterized by an irresistible energy, unflinching determination to succeed, turning everything to count for Christ and the Church.

All supplies can be quickly obtained through the Methodist Book Room, Toronto.

The League must present Christ in the life.

CHAPTER II.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE ORGANIZATION.

The Head Office, The Conference League, The District League,
and the Local League.

The Epworth League is in harmony with the connexional idea of the Methodist Church in Canada and Newfoundland.

The directing body is the "General Conference Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies," consisting of two representatives from each of the twelve Conferences. (See Discipline 413-B.), a General Secretary and Field Staff, the editor of the Sunday-school papers, and the secretary of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions. This Board has the general oversight of the Epworth League movement and all other young people's societies within the confines of the Church. The Head Offices are at the Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Canada.

The General Epworth League—The constitution may be found in the Discipline, Par. 445, page 302, of the 1918 edition. By "General Epworth League" is meant the body of Epworth Leagues enrolled in Canadian Methodism. Thus the "General Epworth League" becomes the "parent" society. Any young people's society, whose president is a member of the Methodist Church, and approved by the Quarterly Board, may become affiliated with the Epworth League body by adopting the name "Epworth League of Christian Endeavor," or "Epworth League of (whatever name the society may have)."

Next comes the Conference Epworth League, with the object of promoting League efficiency throughout the Conference. A convention is held once every two years, at which the officers are elected. The Conference League may arrange for Summer Schools, Conferences, etc., and carry on any other work which will contribute to the interests of the organization or its members.

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tivity. A study of the constitution will show that as a unit of the General Epworth League this Conference body can perform a work which will substantially contribute to the success of the young people's work of the Church. The Executive reports to the Annual Conference each year on a specially prepared form supplied by the General Board.

Next in order of importance is the District Epworth League. It requires the best workers our societies can develop, because upon them falls the responsibility of providing leadership, broadening the vision, widening the scope of League activities, and planning work which will make the whole League enterprise effective in the Districts. The officers are elected at the annual convention of all the Leagues of the District. A representative of the District is elected to the Conference League. The officers of each district should keep in close touch with the officers of the Conference League. Be sure to have every available representation at the Conference bi-ennial convention. Magnify each other's organization. Assist in having Leagues organized in every church. Specially help the weak churches in their young people's problems. Hold district conferences as often as necessary for the purpose of bringing the local officers together, and promoting departmental enterprises. Systematically visit the local Leagues, at least once during the year. Keep a tabulated list of the local League officers, sending copies to the Conference League Secretary, and to the General Secretary's office.

Finally, there is the Local League—the rank and file of the great Epworth League army in the Dominion. Its responsibility to the young people of the church community is explicit. Its association with the District League is important, if it would serve in the fullest sense the purpose of the League. The Local League membership constitutes the District League membership. Every Local League should loyally support the work of the District, attending their conferences, rallies, etc. Representation at District conventions should be carefully planned for: in fact, it is a good idea for our Leagues to train officers with the view to their filling positions on the District Executive. It is an honor to be elected to an office on the Conference or District League Executives. Each League should

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see that the District Secretary possesses all the information regarding officers elected, etc., so that notices of events will readily reach the Leagues and thus all be kept in close touch with the progress of League work. **Co-operate with the District League—show initiative in local effort in district interests.**

Thus it will be seen that the strength of the General Epworth League lies in the co-operative effort of the three units:

The Conference Epworth League.

The District Epworth League.

The Local Epworth League.

Each are necessary. Each must recognize the other's place and effort in the great League plan. All working in harmony with the General Board, most effective service will be maintained for Christ and the Church.

The Constitution of the Annual Conference, District, Local and Junior Epworth Leagues is supplied free by the General Secretary of S.S. and Y.P.S., Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Canada.

YOUR SMILE.

Make the world brighter by just one smile.

Let that smile come from you.

Just a song of gladness.

Ring through life's sadness.

Great things for others may do

CHAPTER III.

OBJECT, PLEDGE, MOTTO, EMBLEM, COLORS AND CHURCH PAPER.

THE OBJECT.

The Epworth League has been most profitable to Canadian Methodism because of the high and noble purpose maintained, and the adaptability of the organization to the varying phases of the field. It is intended to be a **young people's movement**, a spiritual force, a social centre, the different departmental activities contributing to the fulfilling of the League's OBJECT, which is:—

- 1st. To lead young people to Christ.
- 2nd. To promote an earnest, intelligent, practical, Christian life in the young members and friends of the Church.
- 3rd. To assist them in the study of God's Word; and
- 4th. To increase their usefulness in the service of God and humanity.

"To save souls" requires a real heart interest in and effort to win our friends to Christ. The other three phases are the result of unity of purpose, cultivation of the spiritual nature in each member, and the development of the true Christian spirit as the members mingle in social intercourse.

By vigorously and effectively carrying out this object of the League, young people will undoubtedly receive a wide vision, and those youthin' energies which delight in development will be directed into channels of useful Christian service. They will be led to the experience of personal commitment to God. **Not** "what can I do for God?" but "What can God do **with** me?" Judges 7: 20 says: "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Read the story. God was Gideon—**clothed**—and the host fled—success followed. The OBJECT will lead the Epworth Leaguer toward the fulfilling of our Lord's request (Mark 12: 30-31): "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy

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heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength, and thy neighbor as thyself." Note the chart on page xvi, entitled "God's Plan for Young Methodism." It is remarkable how our society meets this **standard of service**. No interpretation of life's duty is so effective, so enduring, so glorious, as that of **service for Christ**. This is the supreme **OBJECT** of the Epworth League—all else are contributing influences.

THE PLEDGE.

"Trusting in the Help of the Holy Spirit, I promise that I shall follow the example of my Saviour and Lord and make an honest effort daily in all things to do the will of God, my Heavenly Father."

A great deal is involved in this pledge, and great are the blessings resulting from the keeping of it. By honestly endeavoring to keep this pledge, a high level of character will surely result, and most useful service undertaken for the Master. The pledged member will belong to those whom Christ describes as "the light of the world," viz., will show forth the realities of Christian living.

It has been said that "the real power of the Epworth League is the silent force of a number of young people who are banded together, and trusting in the help of the Holy Spirit, have promised to follow the example of their Saviour and Lord, and make an honest effort daily in all things to do the will of God their Heavenly Father."

"Keep the pledge prominently before your members—because the vital principles which it announces constitute the very heart and soul of all Epworth League life and growth."

Splendid wall pledges may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto. See that your League has one displayed in your League meeting room. Refer to it often—repeat it occasionally as an opening or closing feature of your programmes. Advocate a pledged membership.

THE MOTTO.

"Look up, lift up, for Christ and the Church."

This is a most appropriate motto for the Epworth League. The first two words, "Look up," are full of promise, indicating that we observe the fundamental of all successful service, that

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...looking up to God in prayer for guidance and blessing. We "look up" to learn His will, to hear His voice, to get power for service. Then we are to "look up" the young friends of the community and get them into the services; we are to "look up" those who are growing cold in their Christian experience; we are to undertake "personal work" for Christ.

We are to "lift up." No one can successfully "lift up" unless he is equal to the load, and that means in many cases that we must be down where the load is, in order to lift it up. This suggests that we will be found where the need is, ready to help. The League is to "lift up," but to do so **every** member must be depended on. One failing in this will mean that just that much weakness will be manifested. All must "lift up" together—co-operation. It matters not what the service is, whether leading a meeting or handing out hymn books, inviting a friend or in silent prayer—all is important, and all must "lift up" together.

We are to "lift up" **for Christ**. He showed us what His purpose for the world was, but He commissioned us to continue the work until the end. Everything we do in Christian service is "for Christ."

It is also for "**the Church**." The Church needs the young people, and the young people need the Church. What would Canada be like if there were no churches? The Church is what we make it, under the favor of God. The Church is depending upon the young to get the young people—for that reason the League will "Lift up for the Church."

THE EMBLEM.*

The Epworth League emblem is rich in significance, being in the form of the Maltese Cross. The eight points of the cross represent the virtues set forth in the eight beatitudes given by Christ in His sermon on the mount. (Matt. 5: 2-12.) The cross in the middle of the emblem reminds us of the atonement made by our Saviour for the sin of the world. The motto, "Look up, Lift up," makes a splendid finish to this emblem.

There are many forms or modifications of the cross, but three distinct styles. The first is in the shape of X. Then

See page iv.

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there is the T-shaped one with the horizontal bar across the top of the stem. The third kind has the horizontal bar a little below the top. This style of cross is the one upon which our Saviour is supposed to have died, while the X-shaped one received the name "St. Andrew's" cross from a tradition that it was upon such a cross the apostle suffered a martyr's death. The St. Andrew's cross was afterwards chosen as their emblem by a religious society known as the "Knights of Malta," who established a hospital at Jerusalem, and were sturdy defenders of the faith. Hence the name. "The Maltese Cross."

When Leaguers wear this emblem, think of the meaning of it all, and let us "sturdily defend" the interests of our Master; by Christian influence and kindly deeds manifesting the language of our hearts, which should ever be "In the cross of Christ I glory."

Neat little emblem buttons or pins may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto

THE COLORS.

"Red and White."

The red is to signify the shed blood of the Saviour, and the white signifies its cleansing power in our lives. Red signifies courage, warmth, enthusiasm. White suggests spotless purity. The red reminds us that with warm love and humanity we must be in the world. The white impresses us with the fact that we should ever keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

To live lives of self-forgetting love requires courage. If our service would be effective, it must have the force of a strong Christian character behind it. If we would have victory over sin we must recognize the provision Christ has made by His death upon the cross.

Our "Red and White" colors should inspire us to be strong and brave, to live lives pure and clean, to show forth our Saviour's life in our character and service.

League pins, showing the colors, white background with the emblem in red in the centre, may be procured from the Methodist Book Room Toronto.

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THE LEAGUER'S CHURCH PAPER.

The most efficient workers are those who are enthusiastic about their work, understand what it is, and are always on the lookout for more up-to-date news, ideas and inspiration.

"The Christian Guardian," published weekly, will contain information devoted to Epworth League interests. This might well be called "A compendium of plans, topics, suggestions, etc., for Epworth Leaguers and members of kindred societies, dealing with matters of study, missions and social service." It contains many helpful articles, suggested programmes, outline articles on the topics, etc., which will give you much to think about and more to do in the interests of the church's activities. One Leaguer recently said: "One idea I got out of 'The Christian Guardian,' when put in practice, turned the tide from failure to success in my department."

"The Christian Guardian" should be read by every officer because it specializes on news and editorial contributions bearing directly on Methodism's work, and on promoting efficiency in organization, consecration to service, suggesting and directing so that a maximum of service may be obtained at a minimum of time.

"The Christian Guardian" will become the President's **Text Book**. It will keep the holy ideals of the Christian Endeavor Department before the First Vice-President. The Second Vice-President will receive a continually unfolding vision of the tremendous missionary possibilities that lie before his department. The Third Vice-President will find many directions and methods for literary and social enterprise, and his department work will become a delight. To the Fourth Vice-President there will be unfolded such a galaxy of propositions that before long he will have the Citizenship Department assuming the role of "Director," not only in League citizenship, but in community interests and municipal matters. And he will learn how his department should head up all the athletic activities of the Church.

The Secretary and Treasurer should read the church paper because it will be to them a reminder that without their particular kind of service there would be a serious lack in the society. (See pages 30 and 35.) They will find that with the vision that

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this paper gives them of the church's great work will come a magnifying of their office.

The paper should be read by the membership because it is their own church paper. It will bring to their attention facts concerning the great work undertaken by Methodism and what other Leagues and Leaguers are doing.

The paper teaches loyalty to the Church and its many institutions. One cannot be an enthusiastic member of the Epworth League unless he believes in, loves his Church, and is anxious for its advancement. The League is an integral part of the Methodist Church, and stands as a means of expressing definite Christian work. Our paper believes in practical loyalty towards that Church and work, and teaches it with no uncertain voice.

"The Christian Guardian" may be subscribed for by addressing Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

"WHATSOEVER" COMMITTEE

Umbrellas, Rubbers, and Wraps.—Some church vestibules have no umbrella-rack or cloak-room, and on stormy nights wet umbrellas are brought into the prayer-meeting room and church auditorium, and left to drip on the carpets. Here is a good work for the Whatsoever Committee. Get a tinsmith to make a shallow zinc pan to fit in a corner for umbrellas. Have a piece of oilcloth under it, enough larger than the pan to hold the wet rubbers. Find a place on the wall for some coat and hat hooks.

CHAPTER IV.

THE EXECUTIVE.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Superintendent of the Circuit, the officers of the League, the ex-President of the League, and the Chairmen of the various standing committees. All matters of business requiring debate, recommendations concerning finance, or proposed changes, shall be brought first before this committee, and by it reported either favorably or adversely to the League. The Executive Committee, through the President and Secretary of the League, shall report its work annually to the President of the District League, on a suitable form to be prepared and supplied for the purpose by the General Board. Where there is no District League this report shall be sent to the General Secretary.—(Local Constitution, Art. 5, No. 11.)

This is a particularly distinctive feature of the organization.

The word "executive" hardly conveys the right idea. The officers constitute the heart of the society, constitute the leadership for the society, is representative of every activity that is undertaken for "Christ and the Church."

Our young people in the main are anxious to undertake work for Christ, but many hesitate because they lack either experience, initiative or guidance.

What is accomplished in the League will depend, therefore, upon what guidance and leadership the officers provide. They should not attempt to do all the work, but should definitely plan and direct the activities of the League. Where failure is apparent they should immediately step into the breach and "carry on" without giving prominence to another's weakness, but in a cheerful spirit set an example in real leadership.

The First Meeting of the New Executive.

This should be made an occasion of special interest, for so it is.

The pastor will be present, giving special oversight and providing helpful suggestions to the newly elected officers. Conduct an open discussion on the general Epworth League idea before calling upon the President to take the chair and

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proceed with the business. The assigning of the members to the departments should be the first concern of this meeting. It is not necessary to have exactly the same number of members on each department, although this is helpful. Be generous in this regard. Choose them largely from a knowledge of their disposition and interests, but see that each year there is a general change if possible. See Article 5, No. 10 of Local Constitution. It may be found necessary in the interests of the work to make some changes at subsequent meetings.

The "Order of Business" will be found in Article VII of the Local Constitution. This may be varied as occasion may require.

For the guidance of those not familiar with Parliamentary procedure, the following book is suggested: "How to Conduct Public Meetings in Canada" (by H. Gregory MacGill), may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Wesley Buildings, Toronto. It will be of great profit to our young people to procure a copy of this book, and to study it. Familiarity with parliamentary procedure will be most useful throughout the "The Parliamentarian," by Rev. T. B. Neely, D.D., is also suggested.

It is a good idea to hold the business meetings in the church parlors, if such are provided, otherwise in the home of one of the members. Create a good social feeling.

The pastor, as the chief officer of the League, should be consulted in all matters of importance and notified of all business meetings.

The League Executive should meet on a special evening regularly once every month, receiving reports of all work done, discussing the general League situation, possibilities of the work, etc., and planning in a general way the united effort of the departments for the next month. It is advisable that this meeting be held during the first week of the month, say the first week in January, to review December's work, and complete the plans for February. The general programmes should be planned about six months in advance, and at these monthly meetings attention should be given to completing the details so that nothing will interfere with the plan's success. This will provide sufficient time to have all arrangements

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Completed well in advance for every meeting, giving each Vice-President every opportunity for efficient effort.

In planning programmes, attention should be given to the topics suggested by the General Board. (See page 132.) Where a local League pursues its own topics, it rarely happens that they give adequate attention to all sides of Epworth League work.

Be sure to encourage every member of the Executive to take part in the discussions. Especially encourage new and timid members to speak out their opinions and suggestions. Let the President insist upon everybody "having their say."

It will be found helpful, and create greater interest in the League work, for the Executive to occasionally, or once a year, arrange a joint meeting with the Sunday-school Executive and the Quarterly Official Board. Matters of mutual concern can be here discussed.

It is not advisable to conduct business in the regular meetings of the League, and this should not be necessary. A well-planned business meeting, accepted as a programme for one of the regular League meetings of the year, would possibly prove very interesting and instructive. Try it some time.

Each officer should keep the President well informed as to how he progresses with his plans for meetings, etc., and the President's advice and support will prove encouraging.

Every officer should seek to advance the interests of the society at every opportunity. Avoid the personal "I" when speaking of the society and its work. It should be "We have" or "We are," etc. Magnify the society and its work.

Disloyalty, lack of co-operation, disinterestedness, are monkey-wrenches thrown into the League machinery that destroy its efficiency.

Too much importance cannot be placed upon the necessity of the Executive recognizing the need and efficacy of prayer. Too often the Executive business meetings are opened with a short prayer by someone, hustled out of the way as a boring preliminary. Those Leagues, upon whose activities God has been pleased to grant special blessing, have been noted for the time they have tarried in prayer. It is advisable, in order to

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accomplish the best results, to have one or more seasons of prayer, remembering each other, the pastor, the missionaries, the membership and members especially who are growing cold in their attitude toward Christ's work. Especially seeking, however, the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon the planning of the meeting. (Read Acts 1: 8.)

"Christ never asks of us such busy labor,
As leaves no time for resting at His feet.
The waiting attitude of expectation
He oftener counts a service most complete."

WIN THEM ONE BY ONE.

If to Christ our only King
Men redeemed we strive to bring.
Just one way may this be done—
We must win them one by one.

Chorus

So, you bring the one next to you,
And I'll bring the one next to me;
In all kinds of weather we'll all work together,
And see what can be done:
If you'll bring the one next to you,
And I bring the one next to me,
In no time at all we'll have them all.
So win them, win them one by one.

Side by side we stand each day,
Saved are we, but lost are they;
They will come if we but dare
Speak a word back'd up by pray'r

Not for hope of great reward
Turn men's hearts unto the Lord:
Just to see a saved man smile
Makes the effort well worth while

Words and Music in sheet form may be had from Methodist Book Room,
Toronto

CHAPTER V.

THE PRESIDENT.

(See Art. 5, Nos. 2, 4 and 5, Local Constitution.)

Every Epworth League President is anxious to make a success of his office and the society's activities.

His first concern should be that he possess the qualifications that lead to success in Christian service, "That he may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3: 17.

He will find useful every characteristic of "the whole armor of God," so clearly shown in Ephesians 6: 13 to 18.

Amos R. Wells, in "The Officer's Handbook," says: "If I were to name in order the qualities that are most essential, I should say consecration, judgment, tact, perseverance. "Consecration," because his work will amount to nothing if it is done for himself or for the society; it **must be done for God**. "Judgment," because it is as necessary for him to know what not to do, as what to do, when to keep silent as when to speak, what plans to leave alone as what to adopt; he needs a level head. "Tact," because he is not to do things as much as to get them done, and all his plans will fail, and his consecration have slight results, if he does not know how to influence others and set them to work. "Perseverance," because he will meet with many difficulties, because plans will not always be carried out, because **one thing actually accomplished** is better than many things merely begun or only desired."

The personal Christian character and qualities of the president will permeate every department of the League. Every worker will feel his inspiration and catch his enthusiasm. His resourcefulness and courage will mean everything to his colleagues. His concern in every activity of the League will be their concern.

The President is elected by ballot at the annual meeting, from a nomination of two or more, made by the pastor. When the election is approved by the Quarterly Official Board he be-

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comes a member thereof. It is wise for the President to attend every meeting of this Board, and to the limit advance the interests of the League, being sure to advise the Board of the League's progress.

The President should be a **young** person, a young man if possible. The more experienced he is in Christian service the better, but **extensive experience is not necessary**. The President will develop quickly when once he enters enthusiastically upon his enterprise.

"The Efficient Epworthian" says: "Without offensive self-assertion, he must make himself a necessary friend of the pastor and of the Sunday-school Superintendent. He must be firm and yet gentle, vigorous and yet tender, exacting and yet considerate, business-like and yet forbearing." This reminds us of Paul's verse in 1st Cor. 13: 7, where, speaking of that great quality "Love," he says, "Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." And this **must** be true of the League President.

The President must broaden and intensify his interests in his work, and in the activities of each department, keeping in intimate touch with each Vice-President, showing a personal interest in each member, especially those recently joining the League. He will be concerned about the unsaved young people of the constituency. He will take a personal interest in the work of the Fifth (Junior) Department, and in the Intermediate League where one may be organized

A Model President

- Will be a true Christian;
- Will never forget the object of the League;
- Will honor the pledge;
- Will be a true friend of the S.S. Superintendent;
- Will see that "everybody's working";
- Will never let a meeting lag;
- Will be ready to "fill in" without apology;
- Will never purposely humiliate an officer or member;
- Will never miss a meeting;
- Will be on the look-out for an efficient successor;
- Will see that the meetings commence punctually;
- Will see that his officers encourage handshaking.

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- Will acknowledge that the Bible is his **best** text book;
- Will be a pledged intercessor and soul-winner;
- Will "count it all joy." James 1: 2;
- Will read "The Christian Guardian."

Suggestions for the President.

Carry a notebook and jot down suggestions regarding efficiency in League management, programmes, etc.

Be thoroughly familiar with the Constitutions of the Conference, District, and Local Leagues. Always have copies on hand and see that every officer has one, and offer the membership copies if they desire them.

Endeavor to have **every** member subscribe for "The Christian Guardian." This is the Epworth Leaguer's church paper, is brimfull of splendid articles, programmes, news, etc., essential in order to keep up-to-date.

Never fail to attend the bi-ennial conventions and the District League meetings, rallies, etc. Not only is this necessary in order to advance the interests of the local League, and to fill out responsibility to the District effort, but 'twill be of great profit to meet District officials, officers from other Leagues, and to catch some of the inspiration and enthusiasm that attends such gatherings. Also attend councils and rallies of the young people's societies of the other denominations, which are always very helpful.

If there are Summer Schools in the conference, keep in touch with them, and endeavor to have the League represented. This will prove a source of blessing to the delegates, and in every case through them to the League.

If Vice-Presidents wish matters of business brought up in the League meetings, insist that this be done at the commencement of the service, and as briefly as possible. Never leave it until the end—it may spoil the effect of your meeting.

Give special attention to the singing—encourage the Vice-Presidents to choose well-known hymns. If you have a good leader, practise new songs; keep introducing new music. (See chapter 16, page 95.) Use the New Canadian Hymnal.

Watch for the strangers. It is good for the President to always meet them. Encourage officers and members to do like-

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wise. Insist that the Social and Lookout Committees faithfully attend to this most important, yet too often neglected, matter, **welcoming the new members and the strangers.**

Don't hesitate to sound a high note of spirituality in the League. Remember the League object: Winning others to Jesus and His service; development of strong Christian character.

The President should seek to be relieved from any other local church responsibility, except perhaps association with the Sunday school. The Presidency is a **big** job, requires much time and attention of heart and mind, and will, if efficiently undertaken, leave very little time for anything else. **Concentration will certainly prove valuable here.**

Be familiar with the aims and objects of every department of the Methodist Church in Canada programme, its Department of Evangelism and Social Service, Home and Foreign Missions, Department of Finance, etc., acquainting yourself with that wonderful organization, the Methodist Book Room. When visiting Toronto do not fail to arrange for a trip through this wonderful building and see the extensive printing plant, where our periodicals and books are printed by the millions. Meet the connexional officers when in Toronto, or when they visit your church. Tell them you are the League President—they will be glad to meet you.

THE PRESIDENT'S TESTIMONY.

The society President should, of course, set the society an example in the matter of testimony. He will be among the first to take part in the meeting—the very first if there is an awkward pause. This does not mean that he is to make a long speech; let him be an example of conciseness as of everything else. It is far better that he should start out with a mere whiff of testimony, so as not to discourage the timid and backward members, and then say what more he has to say near the end of the meeting. Indeed, it is a distinctly good thing for the President to speak more than once in meetings, provided **he does it briefly.** This adds **snap** to the meetings.

CHAPTER VI.

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The composition of the Epworth League provides for five Vice-Presidents, each having charge of a department of work:—

The 1st Vice-President—	Christian Endeavor Department.
" 2nd "	Missionary Department.
" 3rd "	Literary and Social Department.
" 4th "	Citizenship Department.
" 5th "	Junior League.

If there is an Intermediate Department or Canadian Standard Efficiency Training and Canadian Girls in Training groups, we suggest that the superintendent or leaders should be recognized as Vice-Presidents of the Senior League.

The duties of each Vice-President are clearly defined in article 5, paragraph 6, of the Local League Constitution.

Let each Vice-President magnify his particular office and department. Study the constitution regarding the department, see how it can be made most efficient. Think, pray, plan and act as though each department was the **only** phase of the church's work interested in the young people. In many societies this office of Vice-President is held to be almost a sinecure, with little responsibility and little honor. In the Epworth League this is not true. It is one of great responsibility, and it is as much an honor to be a Vice-President as it is to be President. The Vice-President who neglects his opportunities or evades his responsibilities, robs his President and his society of just that much efficiency. The President who fails to recognize the possibilities of each Vice-President suggests inaction to those who would otherwise prove to be the very best workers. The Vice-Presidents are not substitutes for the President, but are his right-hand helpers. A well-organized set of Vice-Presidents will so carry along the work of the League that if the President should be called away on Conference or District League work for a season, the local work will go merrily along. Nothing strengthens a President so much as to know that his Vice-Presidents are deeply concerned about their

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departmental work, and are attending to their duties. Nothing boosts a league more than loyalty among the departments to the League object. And the wise President will occasionally give these Vice-Presidents the opportunity of performing some of his duties.

The Vice-Presidents should be chosen with just as much care as the President. Certain definite responsibilities are placed upon each one, and they should be chosen according to their capacity for successfully bearing that responsibility, and providing "leadership" in their departmental enterprises. The Vice-President is not chosen for the purpose of doing all the work, but for directing the work of the department. Wisely he will organize his department according to the constitution, in so far as the constituency served demands it. He will see that the members have specific duties, suggesting here and there where necessary, helping a little where the timid committee member is in danger of failure, but doing all this in an unobtrusive manner. Nothing will encourage action in committee work like sympathetic interest on the part of the officer in charge. So, choose the Vice-Presidents carefully and prayerfully.

Vice-Presidents might very well bear in mind that they have "in the training" the Vice-Presidents of the future. Where exceptionally promising members are noted, keep them in mind for nomination at the next election, seeking to train them in anticipation of holding office.

Vice-Presidents should always be present at the Executive meetings. Each one should come fully prepared to report on his past month's achievement, and to intimate what his programme is for the coming month. All should discuss together the whole month's programme and endeavor to carry on the theme or keep the League ideals well in view, so that the greatest amount of good may be accomplished for Christ. How often we have heard it said, "I must try and have my programme better than Mr. So-and-so produced." This may be all right if the other Vice-President courted failure by inattention to his work. But the real object of each officer should be to so have his work and programmes planned that altogether every phase of the League's programme and activity will measure up to the highest possible tone. To get this result

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"co-operation" is necessary; and attendance at the business meetings is very necessary if that co-operation is to be attained.

"Consecration of time" is probably what is required by the office of Vice-President more than any other. Remember, the once-a-month programme is only **one** feature of the department's work. The programme is only the public expression of the activities being carried on by the committees during every week of the month. From the charts shown in this book one will be able to grasp in a moment the real extensive programme of each department. This work cannot be undertaken in a casual only-on-Sunday fashion. 'Twill require much time. But time cannot be better spent, and to the young person who is consecrated to Jesus there will come much blessing in the consciousness that they are doing the best they can with the talents God has given them, and in the rich growth of Christian character which results from such service. Note Matt. 6: 33.

The First Vice-President—Christian Endeavor. To this officer is entrusted the direction of work which is perhaps of superlative importance. The spiritual tone of the League depends very largely upon the success of the efforts of this department. The First Vice should be a person of deep spiritual experience, aggressively evangelistic, living in vital union with his Lord. His first consideration every day should be the development of the Christian character in his own life. He can have a mighty influence on the League membership, for "it is not what we **say**, but what we **are**" which will tell upon others. He must be a man of prayer.

The Second Vice-President—Missionary. He should be a thorough believer in Missions. What we have said about the First Vice applies just as much to this officer, and in fact to all. If this is the case he will **naturally** be enthusiastic about Missions. The love of God will constrain him to advance the interests of missions. He will make an intelligent study of missions, will keep in close touch with the offices of the Home and Foreign Missionary Department, and the Young People's Forward Movement at the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto. There is nothing more contagious than Missionary enthusiasm, especially in these days of wonderful strides in missionary advancement in every land. He will relate the programme of

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"Pray, study, give, go," to every member of the League. Finally, he should remember that in **this** missionary work he is in a very special sense a co-worker with our Master, who said "Go," and then assured us with the "Lo, I am **with** you." Missions is undoubtedly the first concern of Jesus, and thus in this work the Second Vice will get very close to the heart of God.

Third Vice-President—Literary and Social. In a no less sense should this officer give attention to the matter of his personal commitment to the Master, and to the service of this important department. Our young people are in dire need to-day for leadership along literary and social lines. The cheap novels, light magazines, racey newspapers, movies (with so many unprincipalled actors and actresses participating in the plays), and the like, are not contributing to a well-balanced taste for literature or entertainment, neither are they cultivating a high tone of social life. Let us not belittle the purpose of this department of our league work then, nor treat it lightly, for it has a great work to do. Important indeed is this office, and it must needs be occupied by a Christian of sterling qualities, with a firm conviction regarding the real condition of things, together with a correct understanding of what our young people ought to have brought before them. This part of our work is just as religious as any other. A well-chosen Third Vice, interested in this way, can do a very real service through the activities of this department. He can organize classes and provide programmes which will assure the better self-development of the members. From the "Social" viewpoint, this officer should be of pleasing personality, a good "mixer," and capable of influencing the membership, through his committees, in the interest of better social fellowship among the members. He should be deeply interested in the Bible. The Bible has been called the greatest literary work in the world to-day. In any event it remains the most popular, and that is enough. To advance Bible study, or daily reading, will be the underlying, overlapping, permeating interest of this officer.

Fourth Vice-President—Citizenship. This is indeed an extensive department, covering every phase of social and moral reform, patriotism, and athletics. It stands four-square for "gospel government, the choosing of Christians to make, inter-

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pret, and administer the laws. It stands for righteousness in legislation, in the courts, in every executive office so that the multiplied activities of public life shall be carried on without corruption and partisanship"—(Efficient Epworthian, page 256.) For this work a young man preferably should be selected, one of pronounced Christian conviction, interested and well versed in matters that concern the community. With his committees he can wield a mighty influence in the interest of better local conditions, social and otherwise. He can make Christianity felt on election day, can introduce its high ideals into many local matters that would otherwise be settled along far less profitable lines. He can make Christianity a very real thing in the community. Then he should be interested in athletics. He may not have much time for this phase of his departmental work, but he can wisely direct his Athletic Committee so that our young people will not have to go outside of the church's influence in order to satisfy the "play life." Rev. Charles Applegath once said to the writer, "The Play Life is as important as the Pray Life." And in the final analysis, that is very true.

***Fifth Vice-President—Junior League.** The Superintendent of the Junior League is the fifth Vice-President of the Senior League. Great care should be exercised in the selection of the Junior League Superintendent, preferably a woman, who should be a person of loving personality, reinforced by the spirit of Christ. Her supreme aim should be to make the Christian life real to the little ones, and lead them on in the realization of it. To do so, Christ must be very real to her. While she will value and use the very latest organized plans and equipment, yet she will realize that the first thing must be to reach the heart of the child. This she will accomplish by her love for and interest in the juniors, meeting them in their homes, showing a sympathetic interest in what concerns them, and encouraging them in a social way by kindly attention. Such a Superintendent will lead children to Christ as naturally as she draws them to her own heart. It will call for patience, tact, and days of prayer, but this is the one office that possesses a charm that the longer you fill it the more attached you will be toward it. See pages 90 and 92 on Junior League work for further information, and consult the "Junior League Hand Book."

CHAPTER VII.

THE SECRETARIES.

The Constitution provides for a Recording Secretary and a Corresponding Secretary. It is well to have both, although a society of small membership could very well succeed with one Secretary.

The Recording Secretary. (See Art. 5: Section 7.) The most important part of the Secretary's work is to keep an accurate list of the membership, and to give close attention to the monthly roll call. A splendid and well-bound yearly Roll Call Book, with abundant provision for list of active and associate members, roll of officers, etc., minutes, and notes may be procured from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto. All the records should be kept in this book, and a new book used each year. They can be numbered in volumes, and by so doing provide a regular history of the society. In addition to this Secretary's book an index record of the membership may be kept, one card for each member, in two sections, one for male and the other for female members. On this card will also be recorded the department and committee they are appointed to. The card is kept continuously year after year, and so the society executive is able to know just what departments of work every member has worked on since joining the League.

The Recording Secretary, assisted by the Lookout Committee Secretary, can look after the attendance record each week. It is important that a record of attendance be kept of each meeting, and it is better to use some other way than calling the roll to find out those present. Many societies use the "Attendance Board," which is simply a board upon which the numbers are placed, each member being given a number upon joining the League. A little hook is inserted in the board just above the number, and on this is hung a small disc. Upon entering the League room, each member removes the disc from his number, and in this way the attendance is correctly reported in the atten-

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dance book. Attached to the bottom of the board should be an alphabetical list of members, giving their numbers.

At each meeting a list of the absentees is handed to the Lookout Committee for visitation.

Correct records of all business meetings of either the League or the Executive should be carefully compiled, recording the names of mover and seconder of every motion, names of those entering into discussion, list of reports presented, etc. In fact the minutes should be a detail report of every item of business, which will be a means of avoiding misunderstandings at subsequent meetings. Attention to detail in this regard will save many a misunderstanding at subsequent meetings. These minutes should be recorded in a neat manner, following out a prearranged plan for entering. Take great pride in the **appearance** of the minute book. A brief account of all League meetings should be kept, giving the full name and address of speakers from outside, and especially the names of those who join each month. Mention should be made of those who have entered life service in home or foreign missions or the ministry.

Keep all reports from the departments filed in a convenient container. Mark on the back of each the action taken by the League on these reports for future reference.

Keep a list of the entire membership, classified into departments, posted in a conspicuous place in the League room. Have copies on hand for distribution.

Be sure to send out written notices of meetings of executive, and **do this well in advance of the meeting night.**

Do not take notes carelessly. Get everything **down right**, and ask all movers of motions to present them to you in writing.

Never copy the minutes into the record book until they have been approved. The President can sign them at the next meeting.

At the monthly roll call* the Secretary should perform his duties in a well-appointed fashion. Call the names distinctly, and do not proceed until sure that the person has answered if present. Sit upright and put dignity into the proceedings.

Whatever may be the method of having new members sign the pledge, see that every member joining the society has signed

* See Art. B: 2 and 3. Usually under C. E. Dept.

Vice-President
REV. E. W. WAICH
Midland

Past-President
ERNEST E. PUGNLEY
Victoria College, Toronto

President
HERBERT D. TRESIDDER
100 Hurontario Ave., Toronto
Telephone: 164-14-15

Secretary-Treasurer
SAMUEL P. SHANTZ
140 Hurontario Street, Toronto
Phone: 164-14-15

Organist
The Epworth League
140 Hurontario Street, Toronto
Phone: 164-14-15

The Toronto Conference Epworth League

Young People's Society of the Methodist Church

THE E-WORTH LEAGUE, A RECOGNIZED FORCE IN
YOUR CHURCH AND CONSTITUENCY

This Executive are desirous of being of service to any local or District League in the Conference. Write at any time regarding problems, plans, programs, conventions, etc., and the Executive, President and officers will be an aid to your work, always

Vice-Presidents
CHRISTIAN ENDORSEMENT DEPT.
REV. E. H. TONG
Hillside

MISSIONARY DEPT.
MISS F. MADDER
100 Brooklyn Ave., Toronto
LITERARY AND SOCIAL DEPT.
MISS B. HAMILTON
Lauri, Ont.

CITIZENSHIP DEPT.
REV. W. CLEMENTS
Lemontville, Ont.

JUNIOR WORK
MISS LAZAR FLINT
Fred Victor Mission, Toronto



The Epworth League

OF THE

High Park Avenue Methodist Church

COR. OF HIGH PARK AVE. AND ANNETTE ST.
TORONTO, ONT.

WE FAVOR

"The Gospel for Every Nation"

Artistic Member's
Bridge

"Trusting in the help of
the Holy Spirit, I pro-
mise that I will follow
the example of my Nat-
ional and Lord, and
make an honest effort
to do my duty, to
glorify my Heavenly Father

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the pledge, either in card form or in the Secretary's book, preferably the latter.

The Corresponding Secretary—(See Art. 5, Section 8.) Many Leagues neglect this office altogether. But it is one that can very well be made a useful and profitable office.

Immediately after the election of officers, a list, with names in full and correct addresses, should be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary to the General Secretary at Toronto, the Conference League Secretary, and the District League Secretary—**three** lists. This is most important if the work from headquarters down to the district is to be efficiently organized. Hundreds of Leagues **never** do this. And yet it should be the **first** action of the newly-elected Corresponding Secretary. And it should be kept up-to-date, corrections being forwarded as soon as there is any change in an office.

When members move away the Corresponding Secretary should at once notify the League President and pastor of the church to which they have moved. Hundreds of young people have been lost to Methodism because this has not been done.

All official letters from any source whatsoever should receive prompt attention, being brought to the President's attention for action.

Brief notices of meetings should be handed to the pastor every Saturday, for use on Sunday. If a church bulletin is used, then the notices should be sent to the one in charge of the bulletin in plenty of time for insertion therein. Boost your League through the announcements—**always something doing.**

Correspond with other leagues regarding methods of work, etc. Keep in touch with Conference and District League officers, and keep informed right up to the minute about League affairs in conference and district. It's very interesting.

Keep in close touch with the head office at Toronto. Be on their mailing list so that you will receive copies of everything they send out to leagues. Read "The Christian Guardian" and be well abreast of the times in things relating to Methodism. Send news items to "The Christian Guardian," and to the local papers.

Have League letterheads (see page 32) and envelopes printed, to be used not only by the Secretaries, but by all officers for

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their correspondence. These could be sold in pads to the members at a small cost.

The Corresponding Secretary can make his office distinctly profitable in the interests of the League. Be a "live" one.

If at all possible this officer should possess a typewriter, or have free access to one. No doubt several leaguers would be willing to assist by writing letters for the Corresponding Secretary.

Keep a scrap book containing clippings of all items that have appeared in the press regarding the league and its work.

So it is apparent that **this** office, which so many societies have considered unnecessary, is really a very important one, with an abundance of work to do.

FOR DISTRICT LEAGUES.

Society Directories.—In one or more public places in every town of any size there should be posted neat, attractive notices of the times and places of the different Epworth League meetings. Such notices should be found in hotels, post-offices, railroad stations, and perhaps some of the stores, as well as on public bulletin-boards, whenever permission to post them can be had. If the different local societies co-operate the expense will be reduced, and at the same time the notices can be made much more attractive and effective by having the whole list on one card, accompanied with a cordial assurance to the stranger that a hearty welcome awaits him at any one of the meetings. A neat frame will add much to the appearance of the announcement.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE TREASURER.

See article 5, section 9.

The Epworth League Executive, appreciating the importance of this office and magnifying it in proportion to its importance, will find that the Treasurer will have much to do with the training of a generation of generous, systematic givers. In these present days of realization of stewardship, the Treasurer has a fertile field in which to work. The receipts are more than they seem, they are the indications of the greater sums and gifts which the church will receive in the years to follow.

Time was when the Treasurer considered that his duty was simply to receive the collections, keep a simple record of receipts and expenditures, pay the bills, and then sit back and enjoy the League programme.

Surely that time is past!

He must now be an enthusiast in the finances of the kingdom. He should study everything relating to church finances, understand the different connexional funds of the church, etc., and occasionally request the opportunity of bringing this information before the League membership.

He should be concerned about encouraging systematic giving through the avenue of the League to missions, church sustenance, local charities, etc.

A careful study of the duplex system, combining local expenses with missionary givings, a canvass of the membership at the time of joining, and a carefully kept record of all receipts, should receive his constant attention.

He can easily secure information in pamphlet form for distribution from the Department of Finance, Methodist Book Room, Toronto. From an educational standpoint he can perform splendid service in this way.

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The Treasurer should co-operate with the Church Stewards in the yearly canvass for church funds. 'Twould link up the League with the Stewards in a real way, and show the League's interest.

Emphasize the importance of giving every week, no matter how small the amount may be—it may be only five cents a week. The records are not for public scrutiny, and a tactful Treasurer will be successful in getting every member to contribute something weekly.

There may be times when "special" collections will be required for certain funds—the support of a missionary, church building campaigns, etc. On such occasions the treasurer can magnify the service by having some original suggestion included in the programme for the evening, such as: Open a large Bible on a small table in front of the platform, announce that all present will bring their offerings up and place them on the Bible, after which all stand, and the Treasurer offers the gifts to God, thanks Him for the privilege of giving, and seeks His blessing on the object in view. This will impress everyone present with the importance and privilege of serving God by the giving of their money.

The Treasurer should keep a regular account book, of a simple form. No money should be paid out without the authorization of the executive or vote of the society, and the Secretary should write out an order upon the Treasurer for each sum so voted, the Treasurer keeping that order as his authorization for the expenditure. He should insist upon receiving a receipt for each expenditure. A report should be presented at each business meeting of either the executive or the society, not necessarily in detail, but in a general way. The books should be audited each year, just before the annual meeting, so that the final report will show the books ready for the ensuing Treasurer.

Special attention should be given by the President and Executive to their responsibility regarding the annual offering expected from the League for the General Young People's Societies' Fund, provided for in Article 5, par. 9 of constitution. Too many Leagues completely ignore this matter, or try to excuse themselves by simply sending in a dollar or two voted

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at an executive meeting. Here is where the Treasurer, under the direction of the Executive, can do some real service to the Canadian-wide Epworth League cause. How shall he proceed?

First learn just what the Epworth League is doing in Canada. Get to know something about its history, what it has done for the Church at home and abroad. Seventy-five per cent. of the ministry and missionary force from the ranks of the Leagues. Over Two Million Dollars for Missions in Thirty Years. And so on. Worth supporting, isn't it?

Then arrange with the Executive for a fifth-night programme some time, and get up a real "golden" programme. Let the membership know that the meeting is in the interests of the fund, but surprise them when you get there by a revelation of the magnitude of the movement, and show them how "little" the Leagues have responded to this call in the past. Show them how "much" your League has "given" to support the general Epworth League work. Then make a strong plea for loyalty to the greatest cause in Canadian Methodism to-day, have pledge cards ready, payable in a month or so, and go to it. Results? A **real** gift, a worthy one, to the cause that is "for Christ and the Church"

†**A Letter a Week.**—Where there is considerable undeveloped material in a community, and the Lookout Committee is doing its best to reach the young men and women outside the Epworth League, the following plan will supplement their work, and give every member a chance to do something. Bring the matter before the society at a business meeting, and ask each member to write at least one letter of invitation each week, with a view to getting some one to attend the meetings.

*See page 46.

CHAPTER IX.

THE MEMBERSHIP.

The constitution provides for three classes of membership:—

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP

There shall be three classes of members: Active, Associate and Honorary Membership; in the League shall be constituted by election at the Monthly Consecration Meeting on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Active members shall sign an Active Member's Pledge. Associate Members shall sign the following declaration in affixing their names to the roll: "As an Associate Member I subscribe to the Constitution of the Epworth League, and shall endeavor to promote its interests and sustain its character as a Christian Society."

The pastor of the church shall be, ex officio, an Active Member of the League.

THE PASTOR.

The pastor is, of course, the "chief" member of the League. We venture to say that there is not one pastor in the Dominion that desires to be given any more attention than any other member of the League. And yet this is true, where a pastor is recognized by the League as their shepherd, there is a more and deeper sense of union between pastor and young people than otherwise. In some Leagues, when he enters, a strange feeling seems to come over the meeting, one perhaps of fear that everything might not please him, or that the pastor might criticize. All the time the only thing lacking is "fellowship," and the pastor more than any other person is conscious of that. Show to the pastor your confidence in him, and don't expect him to take the initiative every time. At the same time, there may be those pastors who could very well show a more definite and loving interest in the work of the League. When notified of an executive meeting, he should endeavor to be there. His presence and guidance is most profitable to the League. He may be too busy to give much time to the League, but the large place the League can fill in the enterprises of his church should prove interesting. He is wanted at the League meetings, is an honored and welcome visitor at any meeting of the committees, etc. In many meetings it is delightful to give the last

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five minutes to the pastor, for here he can have the young people before him under circumstances not equalled in any other church service. Let the pastor be the League's most enthusiastic member—let the League be the pastor's most enthusiastic assistant.

THE ACTIVE MEMBERS.

1. *Active Members shall be persons who are members of the Methodist or some other Christian Church, and who have taken the pledge hereinafter given known as the Active Member's Pledge.*

The Active Member's Pledge is as follows:— "Trusting in the help of the Holy Spirit, I promise that I shall follow the example of my Saviour and Lord, and make an honest effort daily, in all things, to do the will of God, my Heavenly Father."

Membership in the League, according to the constitution, shall be conditional upon election at the monthly consecration

ENTER THE MASTERS SERVICE		Westmoreland Methodist Young People's Society : : OF EPWORTH LEAGUE : :
	Meets every Monday Evening in the Lecture Room of the Westmoreland Methodist Church (Cor. Westmoreland Ave. and Hallam St., Toronto).	
	OUR PLEDGE "TRUSTING in the help of the Holy Spirit, I promise that I will follow the example of my Saviour and Lord, and make an honest effort daily, in all things, to do the will of God my Heavenly Father."	desire to become a member of our League sign this card and forward it to the Secretary or hand to any other official of the Society and you will be received into membership on the first Monday of the next month.
	We respectfully ask you to read the pledge printed hereon and if you	I desire to join your League and will sign the Pledge. Signed _____ Address _____ Date _____

SAMPLE CARD - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

meeting, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. It is well to have all applications for membership come before the Executive. The recommendation of one or more members of the church, or the pastor, should be required with the application. The Executive should know **who** the party is, and his Christian standing to some extent. It is essential that the active membership of the society be well protected. Maintain a high and attractive spiritual atmosphere, and you will have

Zion Epworth League Society

Active Member's Pledge

TRUSTING in the help of the Holy Spirit, I promise that I shall follow the example of my Saviour and Lord, and make an honest effort daily, in all things, to do the will of God my Heavenly Father.

Name

Address

No.

This Certifies that H.

..... has this day of

..... 19.... been enrolled

as a member of the Zion Methodist League.

..... President

..... Secretary

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a more substantial membership. This leads us to emphasize the advantage of a

Pledged Membership

(Also see page 12).

The Constitution says that active members shall sign the active member's pledge. A pledged membership is advisable if a true appreciation of the high and holy purpose of the Epworth League is to be maintained. Weaken your stand here, and you weaken the foundation of your society. Be strong here and you will build a solid structure that will stand the test of these days.

It is intended that every active Epworth Leaguer who is not a member of the Executive will be placed on some one of the five departments. In this loyalty must be manifested, other wise just to that extent will the load for another be the heavier if the whole work of the League is to be accomplished. Every active member has a definite responsibility to the League, independent of his relation to any department's work. He owes his attendance regularly, his attention reverently, his co-operation constantly, and his daily prayers in the interests of the League's enterprizes. Let the active member's slogan be "What would this League be like if every member acted just like me?"

The active members should recognize that the League is their training ground for larger church service. It is not a nest; it is a school. It is not intended for entertainment alone; it is intended for inspiration to higher ideals in Christian character and service. If the active member is not making progress as a result of the League meetings and activities, then it is time for heart searching. Ask this question: "Am I growing in grace, in interest and in service in the cause of Christ because of my association with this League?" Wherever the answer is not in the affirmative, let there be a letting go of the things that hinder, and a pressing on to the mark of the prize of the high calling we all may enjoy in Christ Jesus.

The Associate Members.

2.—Associate Members.—Persons of good moral character may become Associate Members of the League. It is expected that all Associate Members

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shall habitually attend the religious and other meetings of the League, and that they, in time, shall become Active Members thereof; but their names may be removed from the roll after six months' non-attendance upon meetings. Associate Members may serve on committees and be entitled to all the privileges of membership, but shall not be eligible for office.

The Associate Member's Pledge is as follows:—"As an Associate Member I subscribe to the Constitution of the Epworth League, and shall endeavor to promote its interests and sustain its character as a Christian Society."

Persons of good moral standing may become associate members. The constitution asks a pledge from such, and it is to the effect that they will support the policy of the League as outlined in the constitution. This is a worthy step, and in some localities appears to work out very nicely. But in most cases our Leagues encourage only the active membership, and this the writer thinks is the better part of wisdom. A few years ago the associate membership was more desirable than now, for the reason that then more timidity appeared to exist along the line of public confession. The associate membership was a "help" in the right direction. To-day, as never before, we must "take up our cross daily and follow Christ." Experience in many Leagues has shown that it contributes to the permanent interests of the work to win the young people definitely for Christ. However, there is much to be said for both sides. The associate members, if they will live up to their pledge, will not be long "associates." They will soon leave the "almost" class and be with the "altogether" members. Close association with the League members, attracted by their sterling Christian characters and the joy of service, application will soon be forthcoming for reception as an active member. Associate members should, however, do everything in their power to assist in maintaining effectively the League's various meetings and avenues of service. Also note *, page 48.

The Honorary Members.

3. Honorary Members.—All persons who, though no longer young, are still interested in the League, and wish to have some connection with it, though they cannot regularly attend the meetings, may become Honorary Members, and shall be allowed to vote on all matters of business except the election of officers and the adoption of by-laws. Their names shall be kept upon the list under the appropriate heading, but shall not be called at the roll-call meeting. It is understood that the League may look to the Honorary Members for financial and moral support in all worthy efforts.

This affords an admirable opportunity for cementing the relation of the League to the church as a whole. Extend the

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list beyond those who may be "old League members." Interest some of the Church folks in the League's purpose, and while they may be too old to become active members, if they wish to show their practical interest and support of the work, suggest that they become honorary members. The League can make such an arrangement. Then there are those who have been members of the League for many years, now no longer young, yet wish to be associated with the League in a personal way. The constitution says that they may become honorary members, and may be entitled to vote on all matters of business except the election of officers. The moral and financial support of these honorary members will be of strength to the society. They cannot be expected to attend meetings regularly, and may not take an active part; yet they may loyally support the League in many ways that will bring real profit to the work.

FOR PRESS COMMITTEES.

A Bunch of Hints.—If your local newspapers turn down your notices and reports, "keep tab" for one month on all the reports of lodge, political, social, athletic, temperance, and business meetings, and kindly call the editor's attention to it.

Get your society to pass a resolution of thanks to the local press for space given.

Express your society's commendation of the local press whenever it boldly takes a stand for righteousness.

Send important news to "The Christian Guardian," Toronto.

RELATION TO THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL--

1. **Look-out Committee**—New members. See Con. Art. 11:1. Introduce Leaguers to S.S.
2. **Prayer-Meeting Committee**—Special Subjects for prayer. Individual public prayer by members in S.S.
3. **Evangelistic Committee**—Assist on Decision Day Personal work
4. **Sunday-School Committee**—Teacher Training. On S.S. Exec. Every scholar in the League for Training. Specialize Junior
5. **Visiting and Relief Committee**—Visit the sick. Help poor families and make going to S.S. possible.

RELATION TO THE LEAGUE

1. **Look-out Committee**—Win the careless back to league meeting. Seek new members. Introducing new members to members and work. Keep tabulated lists.
2. **Prayer-Meeting Committee**—Prayer talks. Circles and cycles. Leadership individual prayer at meetings.
3. **Evangelistic Committee**—Encourage a pledged membership. Personal workers class. "Win Some" Committee. Action in evangelistic work.
4. **Sunday-School Committee**—Every Leaguer in the S.S. Assist substitute teachers. Encourage S.S. work.
5. **Visiting and Relief Committee**—Visit sick members specially. Also non-members. Assist members in distress, etc.

RELATION TO CHURCH LIFE--

1. **Look-out Committee**—Church door work. Welcome strangers. Secure information for League, S.S. and pastor re strangers.
2. **Prayer-Meeting Committee**—Take active interest in mid-week prayer service. Organize to get better attendance. Arrange for cottage meetings.
3. **Evangelistic Committee**—Co-operate with pastor. Leadership. Tract distribution at church, on street, gatherings, etc. Assist after-meetings.
4. **Sunday-School Committee**—Watch for strangers and introduce them to S.S.
5. **Visiting and Relief Committee**—Good cheer to sick and needy families. Volunteers, nurses, etc.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR DEPARTMENT

Its relation to
the Local
Circuit

RELATION TO NON-CHURCH GOERS--

1. **Look-out Committee**—Systematic work for new members. List of non-members. Co-operate with pastor.
2. **Prayer-Meeting Committee**—Cottage meetings. Co-operate with Evang. Com. Special effort for "Shut-in" members.
3. **Evangelistic Committee**—OPEN-AIR services in summer. "Sing Songs" in hotels, hospitals, jails, etc. Community service.
4. **Sunday-School Committee**—Assist in community service.
5. **Visiting and Relief Committee**—Definite service. Home help, nurses, etc. Relief of needy. Soldiers' families' interests.

CHAPTER X.

THE FIVE DEPARTMENTS OF THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

That the Epworth League can attain a high standard of efficiency as an organization, making full provision for the development of the spiritual, moral, social, and physical activities of the young people of Methodism, is manifest when we observe the remarkable detail of organization, without any overlapping of effort.

Every officer should study the local constitution, article 4, before proceeding with this chapter.

Bearing in mind the object of the League, let us note how each department is related to a definite phase of service, any one of which would be incomplete without the others, but all working out a perfect whole. We earnestly desire that each of these shall do its **own** work in the best possible manner, but that all shall co-operate for the kingdom's advance.

It is manifestly impossible in many Leagues to use all the committees mentioned hereafter. The organization must of necessity be effected, keeping the work to be undertaken fully in view. In many cases two or three committees may be combined quite easily; or formed only as special occasions may arise.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR DEPT.

promotes the fundamental principles and example of Jesus Christ, cultivates the spiritual life of the membership, encourages the practice of private and public prayer, trains and directs evangelistic and personal effort in soul-winning, and generally provides the inspiration and leadership for a high spiritual tone in the League

Five committees are suggested for the purpose of distributing the work. (See page 44, and article 8 of the Local Constitution.)

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1st. LOOKOUT COMMITTEE.—A very important committee. The work is probably the most interesting from the point of view of getting experience in Christian work.

First, remember that upon this committee's efficient service depends very largely the success of the growth of the League. This is the "Sales Department," wherein the extension work is done, the goods placed on the market, so to speak. And for that reason its members should cultivate cheerfulness, enthusiasm, perseverance and tact—they will realize the necessity of thorough consecration to their work.

They are to secure new members. We suggest that a list of all the young people in the community be kept in tabulated form, on regular form cards if possible, and a systematic method of visitation be undertaken, records being kept thereof, and when the person is finally secured for the League the name is transferred to the membership list, which should also be kept by this committee as well as by the Recording Secretary. Never conclude that any young person cannot be won for Christ and secured for Christian service. We have known splendid results to follow after many months of disappointing effort. Some of our leading Leaguers are those who were the least promising at first. (See page 153, "Jericho Plan.") Also †.

They are to introduce new members to the other Leaguers and to the work of the League. This fills a real need. It should be made more effective than it is, and it can be where this committee is wide awake. No young person need ever feel strange or be friendless if the League fills its function in this regard. If seven young people join the League some evening, have seven Leaguers each take one of the new members and introduce them to as many as time will permit. And the Leaguers to whom these new members are introduced should surely look out for them for many weeks to follow until they are thoroughly wedded to the social life of the League.

They are to especially care for any members who are becoming indifferent to the claims of Christ. It must not content itself with general glances over the society membership, but must study the members one by one and determine whether

†See page 17.

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each is doing the best he can for the League, and so is developing himself as best he can for service in the kingdom of God. This is a very necessary work. It will guard against that "They don't care for me" experience some of our young people claim to have gone through. Prayer and definite personal attention, love and perseverance are very necessary in this work. It is better for some one member to be appointed to "chum up" to the member concerned, but let all the others pray every day until "victory" is won.

Unique methods may be employed in going after the absentees and indifferent members. Personal notes may be written by different members on days appointed by the committee. A unique card similar to the following may be mailed to them:—



These can be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto. Or, if your church publishes a calendar, put an advertisement in it, or in your local paper, similar to this:—

MISSED—You were missed from the interesting meeting held by the

Carlton Methodist Epworth League

last Monday Evening. But you have another opportunity—

Come to League To-morrow Night

Bright Programme Helpful Singing

Use the telephone the day after the meeting and have a personal word with the absentee. Reach them through their Sunday School class. Co-operate with their Sunday School

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teacher in securing their regular attendance at the school and League. There are many ways that you know of in which you can show your interest—as you think of them, “do it.”

Suggestions for Lookout Committee.

Have a neatly-bound book of blanks printed, a sample sheet of which is presented herewith. The stub contains the information in permanent form, while the main part of the blank is subdivided in the way indicated, the upper part covering the

Date Absentee Address Reason Result Visitor	<div style="text-align: center;">YOUTOWN EPWORTH LEAGUE</div> Date Visitor Please call on Address Who has been absent from League for weeks..... Convener. <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;">REPORT</div> Reason of absence Result Date Signed <div style="text-align: right;">Visitor.</div>
--	--

direction to the committee-member as to the call to be made, the lower part containing the report thereupon. This information is then transferred to the stub, where it is on permanent record. This plan is an excellent one, as it systematizes the work, distributes it among the members of the visiting committee or others, and enables an accurate record to be kept of the results.

*Where there is an Associate Membership department, an opportunity for very special service is presented. We do not encourage the associate membership idea, although this is

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provided for in the constitution. Few Leaguers now have such a department. Win them at the first for "active" service. Where there is an Associate Membership Roll, this should receive the careful attention of the Lookout Committee. The fact that their names are there shows that they are interested to the extent that they are willing to be associated with an organization that exists for "Christ and the Church." This, then, will encourage you to go right after them and get them to take their place publicly as Christians. Show them special attention. Make the meetings especially attractive at times in order to impress them. Give them some work to do. Get them interested in Bible reading, and in every way possible make the Christian life and service so attractive that they simply cannot stay "associated"; but will eagerly request that they be made "active." **ACTION**—that's the League's watchword. Be sure to give associate members plenty of opportunities to join as active members. They expect it.

When the churches have their regular house-to-house canvass the League can very well co-operate, thus obtaining up-to-date information regarding homes with no church connection, new arrivals in the community, etc. Have the Recording Secretary co-operate in this, so as to check up the correctness of addresses in the Roll.

Leave personal invitations to your church services, enclosed in envelopes, addressed from the registers, to transient guests in local hotels. It is a good thing for the young men of the Lookout Committee to deliver these on Saturday evening, and if possible to also extend a personal invitation. Many a traveller, remaining over Sunday in your town, would like to meet some friends with whom to spend part of the Sabbath day. You will find that the hotel-keeper will welcome this social attention on your part. One man, to our personal knowledge, who accepted such an invitation to come to the Methodist Church the next morning, received the card late Saturday evening just after arriving in the town, met friends at the church, attended Sunday School, came out to League, and when he left town on Tuesday, said to the hotel-keeper, "Some town this, that church is wide awake. I've enjoyed my stay." And

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the hotel-keeper said, "Yep." Let this kind of service have careful and courteous attention. Here is a suggestion for the invitation, printed on nice card, with envelope to match:—

Dear Mr.
(Get name in full from hotel register.)

You will be remaining in town over Sunday. May we take this opportunity of inviting you to attend our Church services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. to-morrow? The seats are free. Our pastor will welcome you. You will surely enjoy the service. There are classes in our Sunday School who will be very glad to meet you. The "Ucomtoo" Class meets at 3 p.m. Then on Monday evening, if you are still in town, come around to our Epworth League Meeting. Bright programmes are the feature. You will feel at home with us. We always have a social half hour afterwards, to which you are especially welcome.

While in Britetown make the Cosy Methodist Church your "home" church.

**COSY METHODIST
CHURCH**
Brietown, Ont.

Very sincerely yours,
.....

The regular church services on Sunday provide fertile fields for the work of the Lookout Committee. The members of the committee will distribute themselves throughout the congregation for the special purpose of reaching the strangers quickly, extending invitations, welcoming, and introducing them to a few friends in the immediate pews. Have a few League invitations on hand in printed form for distribution. See page 51.

There is one thing that the successful Lookout worker will surely guard against. He will never visit any one, suggesting that he is doing so **because** he is on the Lookout Committee. That will at once spoil the social effect of the visit. Go as a friend, interested to the extent of getting another person to enjoy what you are now enjoying. **Personal interest**, that's it. Don't press people too hard, or argue with them to attend the church services. Present the brightest social attitude, and if they do not receive you as graciously as you would like, just

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leave the matter with them courteously. Your pleasing method will **stick** with them, and if followed up tactfully you'll finally secure them for Christ and the Church.

In soliciting for new members, it is well to go over the pledge carefully and explain it. (See page 12.) Remember well the great object for which the League stands. Show them what a privilege it is to link up with such an organization, mentioning the personal benefits they will receive, spiritually and socially; and especially emphasize that the League will present

**YOU ARE INVITED TO SPEND
EVERY
MONDAY
AT EVENING
WESTMORELAND EPWORTH LEAGUE
AT EIGHT O'CLOCK**

Westmoreland Ave. and Hallam Street

FEATURES OF OUR MEETINGS:

BIBLE TALKS	LITERARY EVENINGS
PRaise AND TESTIMONY	SOCIAL GATHERINGS
CHRISTIAN COMPANIONSHIP	CITIZENSHIP
MISSION STUDY	BRIGHT SINGING
COME AND WE WILL MAKE YOU FEEL RIGHT AT HOME	

An Effective Invitation Card.

to them opportunities for larger service which will develop their own character and invest their talents where the maximum of results in the good of others is assured.

It is desirable that a representative from the Junior League Lookout Committee be associated with the Senior Lookout Committee, for the reason that at the committee meetings the names of the boys and girls can be handed over and matters discussed regarding them that might otherwise be overlooked.

Finally, the members of this committee must concern themselves in the matter of being examples to the others of outstanding Christian character, taking part without hesitation in the seasons of prayer or testimony in the general meetings

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The members of the Lookout Committee must live in daily faithfulness to the pledge. **Be a brilliant example of what you think every League member should be.**

***2nd. THE PRAYER MEETING COMMITTEE.**—Splendid opportunities for service are presented to this committee. The constitution limits its responsibility to the prayer meeting, its topic and leader, and then refers to securing faithfulness to the pledge. Of course this may involve little or much effort. Many Leagues prefer to have the entire "department" meet to prepare the programmes, and we find that this is most satisfactory. Thus as a committee this section of the C. E. Department is open for activities that will contribute to the spirituality and effectiveness of the League.

It is well to remember that **Prayer is a Service**, not merely an opportunity, although all service is opportunity. It should be recognized as the liberal soul attitude toward God, rather than one of the Christian's obligations. Prayer to our Father is also fellowship, personal fellowship with Him. How important, then, that prayer be given its rightful place in all League activity. No League will succeed which does not do so. (See page 120, "The Epworth League and Prayer.")

It is the purpose of this committee to encourage private and public prayer among the members of the League.

What the Prayer-Meeting Committee Can Do.

Arrange for an address on "Prayer" to be given in the Christian Endeavor Department meeting.

Organize Prayer Circles, worked out like this: Organize the whole League into say five groups (probably accepting the five departments as these groups). Notify each member what group he is in. Then every League night announce that during the coming week Group C.E. will please pray especially every day for some particular object; Group M. for another object, and so on. The next week announce other subjects for prayer. This will prove very interesting, especially if the convener of the Prayer-Meeting Committee will occasionally tell of answers to prayers thus promoted.

Plan for individual prayers given publicly at meetings. Select five or six persons who have never taken part in prayer

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before, give them a numbered slip, and at a given time the leader of the meeting can call for a season of prayer, and then these persons in their numbered order stand and give a short sentence prayer.

Suggest to those taking part what their prayer should be. Many of our young members need this help. One sentence prayer, even though it may be written out and given in extreme weakness, will often prove to be the **first step** to taking an **active part** in League service. Try it.

Assist in Cottage Prayer-meetings. Evangelistic meetings, in the same way as it does for the League meeting.

Arrange for League members to lead in prayer in the Sunday School sessions. Most superintendents will be glad to announce that "Miss (or Mr.) Thomson, of the Senior League, will conduct the opening prayer in our school to-day." This brings the League prominently before the Sunday School.

Maintain a greater interest on the part of the young people in the mid-week church prayer-meeting. Now, it must not be expected that the young people attend the weekly prayer-meeting regularly, although it would be a most profitable practice if they would. But with so many activities nowadays, many of our young people cannot do so. But it would be a good plan for every League to occasionally plan what might be called "**A Surprise Prayer-Meeting**," when all the members, unknown to the pastor, will meet outside by appointment, and sharp at eight o'clock walk into the prayer-meeting. This would be one of the most interesting prayer-meetings that church enjoyed for many a month. It would bring home to many of our young people the value of the regular week-night prayer-meeting, and not a few of them would surely attend afterwards.

Circulate tracts, etc., on the subject of prayer; or suggest to the members certain books procurable from the Methodist Book Room on the subject.

In a very real way serve the League activities by occasionally holding a cottage prayer-meeting where the entire evening can be spent in praying for the League, its officers and members, the unsaved friends in the community, missions, etc.

Untold blessing lies in store for the League which possesses such a committee. By such prayer-service this committee can

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remove the mountains that seem to hinder much of our league effort in certain communities. God never fails to honor prayer that definitely concerns the extension of Christ's kingdom. Sometimes the answer may be a long time in coming—but read the story of Elijah and his experience before the King of Israel, Ahab, recorded in 1st Kings 18: 41 to 45.

3rd. THE EVANGELISTIC WORK COMMITTEE.—The constitution is concise in its remarks about this committee: "This committee shall devote itself to personal effort for the winning of souls."

The members of this committee will try to develop interest in **personal evangelism** among the Leaguers.

Soul-winning ought to be the main business of the Christian.

"We need wisdom beyond our own to win the souls of men, and the power also that is of God," says the "Soul-Winner and Soul-Winning," by Rev. J. W. Kemp. "We cannot all be evangelists, but we may all be soul-winners. Try it. There is no work so effective, no work so romantic, no work so enduring, no work so glorious. For myself I covet above all gifts the power of wisdom to win souls for my Lord."

Three things are necessary in the equipment of the Evangelistic Committee member to insure success:—

1st. Personal Salvation.

2nd. Personal Consecration.

3rd. Personal Application to the Work.

Then he is to study the best methods for soul-winning effort, and seek to develop the maximum of efficiency as far as his personal service is concerned; definitely recognizing, however, that more than efficiency is necessary; the **sufficiency** of the Holy Spirit must attend his effort, otherwise there will be nothing but failure. Read carefully and prayerfully 2 Cor 9: verses 8 and 11.

It is not only "What can I do for God?" but "What can God do **with** me?" Remember Judges 7: 20. "The sword of the Lord **and** of Gideon." Note that God was **Gideon-clothed**; that was the secret, and the host fled—**victory**.

The Epworth League has been planned so that it **will** be a most effective soul-winning agency. It is to particularly **aim**

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to win the young people for Jesus Christ. Every department contributes its effort to secure this result.

Apart from the natural process of League growth, there is no other method that will so satisfactorily sustain a healthy League growth as "Soul-winning." Perhaps the most marked development of League life anywhere has been that which has followed the accession of young converts who have caught new visions of character, assumed new relations to Christ, and taken upon themselves new obligations of service in His cause and kingdom as the result of special soul-winning effort. It means a revival, and we have never known a revival of religion to fail to build up both the internal spiritual life and the numerical strength of an Epworth League. Without a doubt the greatest blessing that could come to a great majority of our young people's societies would be just such a manifest outpouring of the Divine Spirit. This of course cannot be mechanically secured, but must come as the result of spiritual forces that operate through the channels of prayer, Bible study, personal evangelism, and a general turning of the young people to God. **Where the divine price is paid, the divine fruitage is always granted.**

Evangelistic Leadership.

To the Evangelistic Committee is committed the matter of leadership in this work. As a committee they should meet frequently to pray and study regarding the matter of personal work. Many of our young people desire to definitely interest their young friends for Jesus. Not a few succeed in doing so, perhaps, but many others do not seem to be able to do so. They lack the faith to proceed, or they do not know how, or are too nervous to undertake the first step, and so fail. To these the Evangelistic Committee can be of real service.

Personal Workers' Classes.

It is **important** that Personal Workers' Classes be established in every League. Leaguers have never had a better opportunity than **to-day**. These classes may be conducted one evening each week, for one or two months, under the leadership of

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the pastor or some other capable person, culminating by the class conducting one of the C.E. department's meetings, at which different members can present different phases of the studies taken up, and thus the whole League become acquainted with the plan.

This organized Evangelistic Committee, providing the leadership and carrying on the class for all Leaguers interested, will be thus promoting definite personal evangelism in the League, and such service definitely undertaken becomes contagious—work of this kind once started adds power as it proceeds.

What the Evangelistic Committee Can Do.

They will, for example, suggest that the members have prayer lists bearing the names of their unconverted friends, for whom they will pray daily, invite them to church and League, and seek to win them to Christ.

Co-operate with the pastor in cases of personal effort to influence young people for Christ—he will welcome this co-operation.

Undertake tract distribution in the community or at church services. Many tracts are being distributed to-day which are foreign to the teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ—this should be counteracted by systematic tract distribution by League members.

Assist the pastor in Sunday evening after-meetings. Many a pastor would undertake these after-meetings if he could depend upon the support of his Epworth League. And much blessing would result if we had more after-meetings in our churches.

Conduct open-air services. This provides most interesting work for the Leaguers. In Toronto the Westmoreland Epworth League some years ago undertook open-air services every Sunday afternoon, under the leadership of Mr. Fred Frost, in a quarter where many Italian families were living. These people always gathered around to hear the singing. Occasionally an Italian Christian worker was invited to attend and give a message. When fall came a man

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living in the neighborhood offered the League a store free if they would continue the services. They did so, and the work has grown until to-day we have that splendid organization, the Dufferin St. Italian Mission. Other Leagues hold open-air services during the summer on Saturday or Sunday evenings, on prominent street corners. This offers splendid experience for the Leaguers, and brings grand results to the church. Try it.

Hold "sing-songs" in the hotels. Many an hotel-keeper would be only too pleased to give the committee the use of the hotel parlor for a Sunday afternoon or evening sing-song. Did you ever try it? Take along hymn books, a good pianist, several soloists. It is not necessary to have any address or Bible reading until after several weeks of meetings have passed. You will surely have the joy of hearing the hotel-keeper say, "Glad to have had you. Come back again."

Hold "sing-songs" or services in jails, homes for incurables, missions, etc. In connection with prison work—did it ever occur to you to ask permission to visit the city or town prisons? In many of our cities provision is made for the religious needs of prisoners, but in our towns this is seldom done. Usually only a few men are incarcerated at a time, and surely something ought to be done to reach these men on Sunday with a little cheer and the gospel message. This presents an opportunity for excellent League service, and the probability is that no difficulty will be experienced in getting the necessary permission. The writer knows of many cases where men and women have been won for Christ under these circumstances, and when liberated took their place in the community's Christian life.

Conduct cottage prayer-meetings. This will give Leaguers many opportunities to develop as speakers, singers, personal workers, etc. Such meetings are capital for personal work, and many young people can be won for Christ thereby. Here inexperienced members can give their first testimony, read their first lesson, give their first public prayer, or lead their first meeting.

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Visit the "shut-in" people, invalids, elderly people, etc., taking to them the cheer and blessing of a short bright song service.

Promote the "Pledged Membership." See that the League Pledge is kept in a prominent place in the League room. Encourage the leaders to ask the League to repeat the pledge all together as frequently as possible. You cannot make too much of the pledge.

The pastor will depend upon this committee assisting in a very practical way in the evangelistic meetings connected from time to time.

Make this committee a real, live, **"WIN SOME"** Committee.

There are many helpful books obtainable at the Methodist Book Room, Toronto, by which our Leaguers may secure much profitable assistance in preparing for and undertaking soul-winning. A splendid little pocket edition booklet entitled "The Win One Worker," by Christian F. Reisner, will be found excellent. "The Soul-Winner and Soul-Winning," by Rev. J. W. Kemp, is another very helpful book, prepared in a concise and definite manner. A series of four little pamphlets on "Personal Work," by Rev. Arthur Barner, one of Canadian Methodism's most effective personal workers, have been issued by the Department of Evangelism and Social Service, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, and will be found most interesting and profitable by Leaguers. This Department will be glad to be of assistance to all Epworth Leagues in matters relating to Evangelistic or Social Service work. "The Christian's Helper," by the author of this book, is also suggested.

Every Leaguer should prepare in every possible way for this great work, and enter actively upon it immediately. Seek by character, influence, and trained service to win others to Jesus.—Matt. 5: 16

The Pen in Soul-Winning

Suggest to the members that in their letters to friends they speak of their spiritual interests and seek to win them for Christ. Some have made it a rule never to write a private letter without in some way speaking about Christ and commending Him as Saviour and Friend. Others follow the practice of enclosing a tract or scripture card in every letter. Both methods are good.

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4th. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE, also **JUN OR LEAGUE AID.**—There need never be any rivalry between the Epworth League and the Sunday School, as their work is so entirely different. The Sunday School is the **teaching institution** of the church and the League is the **training school**. They supplement and help each other. The Sunday School Committee of the Epworth League can do much toward establishing and promoting definite co-operation.

The organized classes in some centres have not associated with the League, and this has not contributed to the fullest development of the service of the young people. In very few cases has the organized class really **taken the place** of the League in the development of efficient service. The organized class fills a real service in the Sunday School, and will always continue to do so. But if the best service of the young people is to be conserved for the Church, then the training and mid-week activities the Epworth League offers must supplement the teaching the Sunday School provides. The time is coming when the week-day activities of the organized classes will most surely be linked up to the Epworth League in a general church Young People's Department if we are to adequately meet the need of modern conditions. This idea is dealt with more fully in chapter 18, page 103.

The Epworth League Sunday School Committee will be a valuable assistant to the Sunday School Superintendent. The convener of this committee should attend all S.S. Officers' and Teachers' Meetings. The association of this committee with the Sunday School is provided for by the General Conference, so why not put it into action? Few Leagues do. They would profit if they would. And so would the Sunday School.

The Committee can advance the Sunday School interests by:

Encouraging Leaguers to attend the Teacher Training Classes.

Canvass every member of League for S.S. membership.

Co-operate with teachers in visiting absentees

Introduce new League members to the S.S. Superintendent.

Assist in Sunday School canvass

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Encourage Leaguers to take responsibility in the S.S. In this connection a "Teacher's Supply Class" should be organized.

The importance of this committee's work will be realized when we note that the Sunday School is the Bible School of the Church, where Bible instruction is given by the most competent teachers who can be secured, according to prescribed methods.

Emma A. Robinson, in her helpful book, "The Junior Worker and His Work" (which may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto), says the Sunday School is "the place where they become more fully acquainted with God, where their religious natures are nurtured and developed, where they learn to study and love God's word, the great truths of the Bible being so brought in touch with their lives that they enter into and become part of them, and where each one definitely avows submission and obedience to the leadership of Christ."

All of this the Sunday School is expected to do. This is the fundamental preparation of life and heart for the Christian service which is to follow, and in which the League has so large a part.

Therefore the Sunday School Committee of the Epworth League will have at heart the Sunday School interests as regards the Senior, Intermediate, and Junior Leaguer.

This Committee should aid in a very substantial way the **efficient working of the Junior League.**

5th. THE VISITING AND RELIEF COMMITTEE.—

There is abundant need for this committee in every church community, and perhaps in no other way can a church more forcefully show the spirit of the Master than through its visiting and relief activities. It has been known where entire families have been secured for the church, just because of timely service during sickness and sorrow. It is service such as this that merits the Master's words, "Ye have done it unto Me."

Who should this committee seek out constantly?

The Shut-in ones. Aged people who need cheer and assistance.

The sick members. In their own homes or boarding houses.

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Poor homes where illness or sorrow is. Splendid service can be rendered here. Get in touch with the doctor and he will advise what service would be most acceptable. One of our Leagues heard of a case of illness and destitution; a visit resulted in their getting in touch with the doctor, who advised certain dainties, which they procured and sent to the sick ones; a woman was engaged to go in and keep the house in order. The pastor and League members went and sang to them. Finally when health was restored, and the family enabled to be out again, was it not quite natural that they should all desire to unite with the church? In another home two young girls were rescued from a life of sin, given assistance, and finally both gave themselves to Christ, joined the church, and are to-day in their own homes of comfort and are active Christian workers.

Poor families, whose children are not sufficiently dressed to be presentable at church services. Tactfully the mother can be won over to allowing assistance in preparing the children and sending them to **Sunday School and Junior League**

Seek out cases of illness among young people not associated with any church. Give them special attention.

Providing volunteer nurses. It might be possible to have a class formed where some of the essential matters might be explained by a graduate nurse, so that these volunteer workers could do real efficient service.

Providing night watches in homes of illness. Many a tired parent would appreciate this help, after long weary hours of watching over sick members of the family. One League provided one young man per night for about two weeks in the home of a widow whose son was ill.

This committee will often locate young people, boys and girls, whose names can be sent to the Look-out Committees for the **Senior, Intermediate, and Junior Leagues**

Organize special movements when epidemics of sickness affect the community, such as Relief Committees, Soup Kitchens, Shelters, etc.

One society undertook to take care of a family of three little tots whose mother had died as a result of the father's drunken brawl, he being sent to prison. Then they visited the father in prison regularly. They rescued the children out in homes in

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different parts of the country where they received proper care and Christian training.

Visit hospitals and prisons.

†Distribute flowers among the sick. Let it be known in the church congregation that this distribution is being done. Request gifts of flowers.

*Make arrangements with the Floral Committee of the Literary and Social Department for co-operation in securing a supply of flowers. See page 82.

A very happy service is for this committee to keep a record of the birthdays of the aged members of the church, and on their birthday to send a gift of flowers with the League's greetings, pleasant letters accompanying these gifts, bringing joy to the recipients. The pastor and his wife and missionaries home on furlough should not be overlooked.

When a family moves into the community, send them a bouquet of flowers with a letter of invitation to the church services.

There are countless ways in which effective service can be rendered by the Visiting and Relief Committee

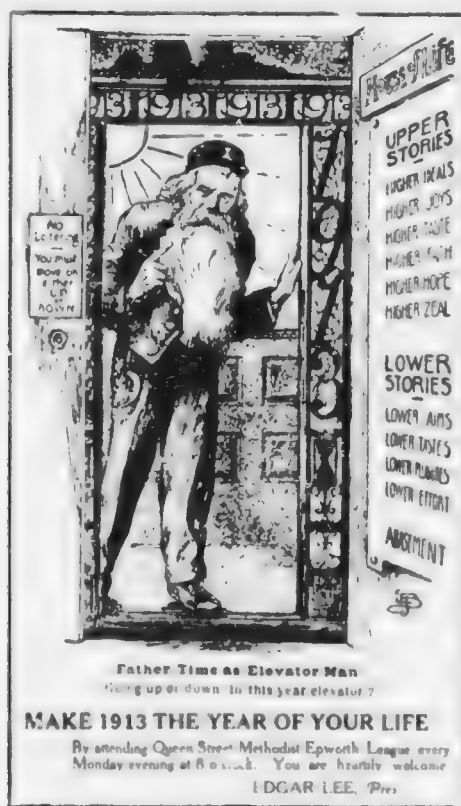
THE RECEPTION SERVICE

Usually under the direction of the C.E. Department

There are a large number of Leagues in which the form of reception of new members as provided in the local constitution, article 10, is never observed. When there is an occasional addition to the membership there is no ceremony attached to the enrolment, additions being made quietly and without any special recognition of the member. This is not as it should be. Reception into League membership should not only mean something to the individual joining, but it should call forth manifest interest on the part of the League itself. The real value of new members, both to themselves and the League, can only be properly estimated when the reception service is regularly observed

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By careful planning on the part of the C.E. department, this may be made one of the most interesting and profitable meetings of the month. Avoid repetition of the same programme. Make changes in the details, but not in the form of reception. Introduce new items of interest. Occasionally have the District President, or the Conference League President, or the General Secretary, if available, conduct the reception.



An Interesting New Year's Card

The MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT of the Epworth League

It is the DUTY of the Church to give every person the opportunity of accepting the Gospel of Jesus Christ

1 PRAYER COM.	2 LITERATURE	3. PROGRAMME	4 MISSION STUDY	5. STEWARDSHIP
Promote Intercession— 1. Daily private prayer. 2. Prayer Cycles. 3. Prayer Circles. 4. Public Prayer. Assist at Prayer Meetings, etc. Specialize on the Missionary or the Field. Organize a Missionary Correspondence Department. Monthly letters and newspapers to missionaries on field.	Circulate Literature on:— Prayer for Missions. Bible and Missions. Promote "Outlook" and "Missionary Bulletin." Press Clippings. Missionary Post Office. Reading Circles. Pictures for Room. Maps and Charts. Lending Library.	Debates. Lectures, Travelogues, Trips, RECEPTIONS for Missionaries home on furlough. Stewardship Meetings. Missionary Socials. Commission and Exhibition. Object Lessons. Meetings in Foreign Settlements, in Homes and open air.	Study Classes. Summer School interests. Promote Missionary Institutes in District and Conference. Evening Classes or S.S. Classes for foreigners.	Promote the Tithing Idea. Promote teaching on Stewardship of Life, Time, Talent, and Money. Circulate Literature. Organize a Life Service Dept. for counsel, prayer and practical help to those who volunteer for Life Service.

The four committees, Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, to co-operate with No. 3 in planning programmes. Have a representative in each Dept. of the Church.

The "OPPORTUNITY" is the world.

The HOPE of Missions is the response of youth.

The Missionary Department of the League should co-operate with District and Conference League effort in the interest of Missions. Co-operate in Church "Every Member Canvass." Encourage support of definite object. ENTERTAIN—not use—the Missionaries home on furlough.

ENF YIAIN—not use—the Missionaries home on furlough.
deninite object.

CHAPTER XI.

THE MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

It is eminently fitting that in the organization of the Epworth League provision should be made whereby our young people should have abundant opportunity to study and take part in the work of the extension of Christ's kingdom. Methodism to-day possesses a wonderful heritage of missions in Canada, China, and Japan. It has been the privilege of the Epworth League to have had in the past an enviable association with this great enterprise; in fact, hundreds of the missionaries who have gone out into active service have come from the ranks of the League. Through the Forward Movement over two million dollars has been given during the past twenty-five years. Canadian Leaguers will continue to measure up to their privileges, and will increase their efforts in the interests of missions.

Lieut.-Col. C. B. Keenleyside, B.A., B.D., in his book entitled, "God's Fellow-Workers" (which may be obtained from the Young People's Forward Movement, Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto), says: "The construction of the Temple (His kingdom), thus planned by God in the aeons of the past, has been left to us. We are God's co-laborers. So, at least, do the scriptures declare (1 Cor. 3: 9); and it would seem that, should we fail Him, God, for some inscrutable reason, in trusting the work to us has made no other arrangements for carrying it on."

The Missionary Department of the League is practically a LIFE SERVICE Department, creating an interest in missions; guiding and training the young people in missionary activities; discovering volunteers for the Home and Foreign Mission Fields, for Social Service, Deaconess work, and for the ministry. Also note * on page 88

The Canadian Epworth Leaguer.

Looking at the whole situation in its present-day aspect, we note that FIVE committees are advisable in order to adequately carry out our missionary effort:—

1st. THE PRAYER COMMITTEE. [This will follow out some of the suggestions given for the Prayer Committee of the C.E. Department (see page 52*). It will promote prayer in the interests of missions; this is of supreme importance. We may put all the stress we like upon anything else connected with our missionary work, but unless we concentrate on prayer we shall not succeed as we might. Deeper far than the need for money, efficiency of method and the like, is the need for all-prevailing world-wide prayer—THAT will win. The forgotten secret of prevailing prayer is at the bottom of much of our spiritless effort, whether missionary or anything else; but particularly missionary. "True prayer for missions makes the one who prays a true missionary," said the Rev. A. Lousley. We need to keep in vital touch with Him Who can instantaneously carry our thought and sympathy to far-off China, or elsewhere; Who can bring blessing to those in whom we are closely interested.

2nd. THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE. The duty of this committee will be to circulate literature supplied by the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions. It is suggested that pamphlets or tracts on the following subjects be used:

Prayer for Missions.

Bible and Missions.

The "Missionary Bulletin" and "Outlook."

Write to the Young People's Forward Movement Office, Wesley Building, Toronto, for help along this line.

A Press Clipping Secretary should watch the papers for items of missionary interest and present these at the Missionary Meetings, Study Classes, etc. The newspapers abound with news from missionary lands, and clippings carefully selected and revised will prove very interesting at the League meetings.

Use the Missionary "Post Office" plan, write to the Forward Movement Office for full information. By this plan you can keep missionary letters in circulation throughout your League during the whole year.

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Arrange for pictures to hang in your League room. Plan out an attractive display. Be sure to have an enlarged photo of the missionary supported by your League, district, or church.

If your League or Sunday School uses a lantern, have a slide of your missionary, and show it occasionally.

Use maps and charts, with the position of our mission stations clearly marked, and refer to them frequently. The Forward Movement Office can give you a sheet of portraits showing all the missionaries now in active service in China and Japan.

Endeavor to promote a Missionary Library. This plan has proved of great value to many Leagues. It means securing the missionary books sent out by the Forward Movement Department at Toronto, the appointment of a librarian, adding new books as they may be issued from time to time, and making plans to secure the circulation and reading of the books.

3rd. THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE. This Committee shall outline the programme for the regular monthly missionary meeting, and bring it before the department for approval; or the department may decide to allow this committee to go ahead and carry out the programme.

After all, thorough preparation for the programme is the most important part of the missionary evening, for no matter how elegant the surroundings in the League room may be, or how large or small the audience, unless there is a carefully planned and interesting programme very little, if anything, will be accomplished. Among many things, the following enter into the success of the programme:—

The Leader.—Let him be one filled with the missionary spirit.

The Length.—Not too long; from an hour to an hour and a half.

The Aim.—Every number on the programme to have a special aim, a definite purpose—to create more interest in and support for missions.

The Prayer.—Enthusiastically missionary.

The Music.—An important factor in any ideal meeting—particularly so in the Missionary Meeting.

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The Living Link.—Concluding with something that will bring those present into vital, living touch with their responsibility to missions.

The Material.—Fresh, every bit. Avoid repetitions.

The ideal missionary programme presents only bright, fresh, up-to-date missionary material, sometimes with an open discussion on the theme of the evening.

Debates may be arranged on such subjects as:—

“Resolved that the indifference of the home Christians has been a greater obstacle to missions than the opposition of the heathen religions.”

Lectures from returned missionaries or those with special knowledge of missionary matters, travelogues, etc., are especially valuable. See * on page 74—Receptions.

This committee should also assist the Evangelistic Committee of the C.E. Department in arranging for meetings in foreign quarters. If the Evangelistic Committee does not conduct open air or other mission services, then this committee should undertake that work directly as a missionary enterprise.

Suggestions for programmes which will be interesting to this committee will be found in chapter 25.

4th. THE MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE.—Missionary interest depends upon missionary intelligence. This is the reason for the emphasis laid on mission study—the intensive, systematic study under a leader and with the aid of a text-book, of a country or phase of missionary work.

Mission study has become a normal part of the work of the Young People's Forward Movement. At the summer schools year by year new text-books are introduced and the members of the study classes return home to organize study classes, repeat the lessons, and carry the inspiration of the summer school into their home churches.

The worth of Mission Study Classes needs no comment here. This phase of League activity has been productive of so much profit in missionary education that it is received everywhere now without question, and has become recognized as a necessary part of the League Missionary programme.

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It provides for intelligent missionary study, in small classes, under trained leadership and amid surroundings calculated to produce lasting influence upon the members. The majority of the candidates for missionary service come from the membership of the Mission Study Classes.

This committee will organize Mission Study Classes. Some book such as "His Dominion," "Canada's Share in World Tasks," "Our West China Mission," or "Progress in the Mikado's Empire," is chosen as a text-book. Announcement is made in the League that the class is being organized and names received of those who will take up the study. From ten to fifteen persons constitute the desirable number for a class. If more offer, then another class can be formed. A leader for the class is chosen at the first meeting, as well as a secretary who keeps the roll of attendance. Assignments for study are made, different members being given different phases of the subject to study up for the next meeting, and the study class proceeds, meeting weekly, usually in a private home. A course usually takes from six to ten weeks, and at the close a general programme is given in a special League Missionary Meeting, the members of the Mission Study Class providing the programme.

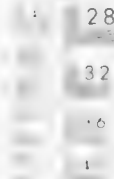
The importance of Mission Study must not be underestimated. It brings the members of the class close up to the subject of missions, and everything is studied first-hand. The meetings teem with interest, and members become missionary enthusiasts. It is advisable where these classes are continued to encourage the members to study a new book; missionary interest is thus deepened and extended. Full information regarding Mission Study Classes may be had by writing to the Young People's Forward Movement Offices, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

The Mission Study Committee should also promote the interests of the summer schools. It was an excellent idea, that of a company of young people being gathered together for a week or ten days, devoting themselves to the study of Missions and the relation thereof to Christian life and service. Since the summer school has been supplemented by Epworth League Summer Schools, the value has been increased, because it is imperative that every phase of League work should be definitely



MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2



APPLIED IMAGE, INC.

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related to the great cause of missions, and efficiency in other departments has a direct bearing on the efficiency of the Missionary Department. The prominent place given the study of missions in Epworth League Summer Schools will account for much of the success attending them. Leagues dormant in missionary interest have been brought to newness of life, not only in regard to missions, but in every other way as well, directly as a result of a delegation attending a summer school. These schools bring a knowledge of better methods and up-to-date equipment. Students meet missionaries not only once or twice, but every day for a whole week, and they get directly the missionaries' spirit and viewpoint—of inestimable worth to every young Christian.

A summer school club should be formed early in each year, and if large enough the members might be distributed over two or three schools. A club like this can prepare for the school in a very practical way, deciding beforehand from the programme just what studies each will take up, so as to bring back to their League the greatest amount of profitable knowledge and training.

The Mission Study Committee should co-operate with the District Missionary Vice-President in promoting Missionary Institutes, Rallies, etc. It should be directly associated with every missionary activity of the local church, corraling for the League every possible influence calculated to advance League missionary activity.

This committee should also assist in arranging where possible for conducting classes for foreigners living in the community. See * on page 56

5th. THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE.—The whole church is now well on the way toward universal tithing, and yet there remains much educational work to be done in the interests of stewardship.

Stewardship of time, talent and money—the whole life effort directed into channels of service for Christ—that's the present day idea. It is the privilege of this committee to promote this, by (first) the circulation of tithing literature, which may be obtained from the Department of Finance, Wesley Buildings Toronto, and (second) by occasionally providing a programme

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for the League meeting. On this occasion a number of League titheers can relate their experiences—what led them to become titheers and the effect of the practice in their own lives.

A number of Christian Stewardship study classes are also recommended, using the text books, "The New Christian," by Dr. Ralph S. Cushman, and "Money: The Acid Test," by David McConaughy; or the literature provided by the Department of Finance.

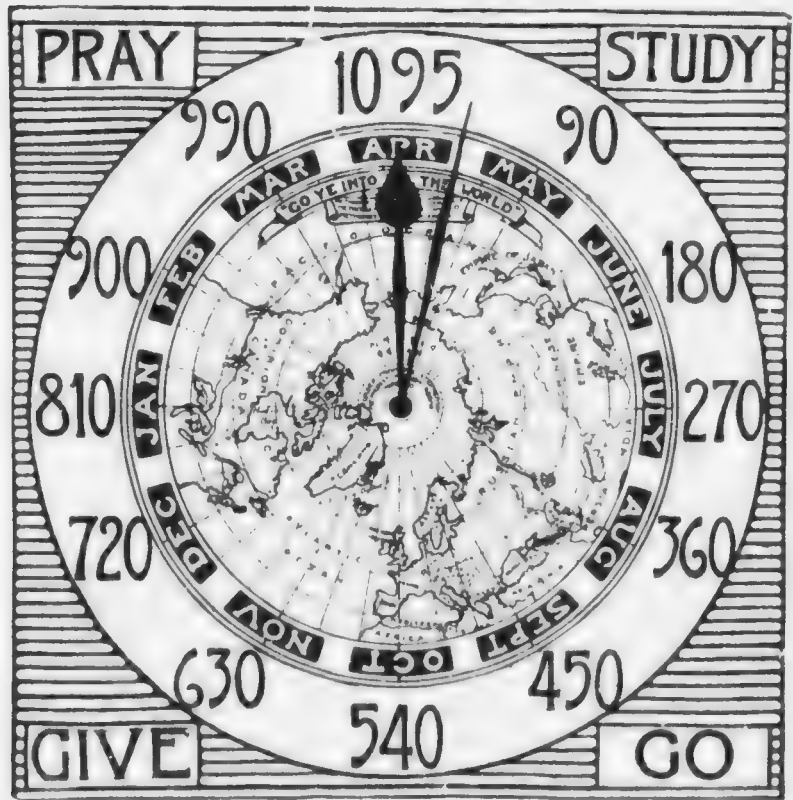
The spirit and soul of the Forward Movement is Christian Stewardship—stewardship of prayer, stewardship of knowledge, stewardship of money and property, stewardship of life and service. When organizing the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions, it was found necessary to recommend a financial policy. This policy had to rest on principles which would not fail. The great majority of our young people have very small incomes. It is, therefore, difficult for them to make even small systematic contributions. Study revealed nothing better than the Bible teaching of tithing. The Bible is clear, strong, and safe for beginners, as well as for those who have prospered financially. Those who can give more than the tithe should launch out and do greater things.

Systems for Missionary Offerings.

There are many ways of functioning systematic giving, but the most successful is by tithing a tenth of the income, no matter how small, and then using the weekly envelope system. In some instances arrangements are made co-operating with the Church Missionary Committee, and all using the church duplex envelope system, crediting the League with the givings of League members. Or the League may use the duplex envelope—for League funds and missions; this promotes support of definite League work at home and in missions. Or League missionary envelopes may be used adopting the once-a-month plan; each Leaguer receiving twelve envelopes per year. In all cases it is advisable to obtain pledges from the League members, so that the "aim" for the year can be planned for and attained. Just before the close of the year, hold a "Missionary Thankoffering," which will give opportunity for last-minute gifts.

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The four committees, Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, should co-operate with committee No. 3 in planning the regular League missionary programme and activities; have a representative member placed in every department of the church; co-operate loyally in the every-member canvass of the church; encourage the support of definite objects—if possible, have your League support or unite with other Leagues in the support of a missionary.



The Missionary Clock.

This clock, two feet by two feet, framed or hung in a prominent place in the League room, will prove to be a very helpful accessory to the League missionary plans. It keeps three things before the Epworth League: (1st) the financial objective for the year; (2nd) the amount of money subscribed; and

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the amount of money paid in. The amount of money aimed at for the year is divided into twelve equal parts, the months corresponding with the hours on the dial. Each month shows the objective, or the amount expected at that date. The minute hand points to the amount which has already been subscribed, and the hour hand points to the amount which has been paid in. Anyone can see at a glance how much should be paid in at the end of any month and how far short the subscriptions are of the objective.

If the subscriptions should amount to more than the objective, then the clock will be out of order and need repairing; this is a simple matter, merely requiring that the new figures be placed on the dial.

Full information may be easily obtained regarding this missionary clock by writing to the Young People's Forward Movement Offices, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

THE USE OF THE LANTERN.

Where possible it will be found of great assistance to have a good stereopticon lantern. Lanterns, lantern slides and moving pictures are the eyes of the Forward Movement. They enable our young people to take a peep into any and all mission fields. They also give them a look into text-books on missions and thus encourage them to start mission study classes. While it is easier, and perhaps somewhat satisfying, to see good pictures and hear a good lecture, it is impossible to understand fully conditions and circumstances of the people in any of our mission fields, or to sympathize fully with our missionaries without careful, systematic study. Sets of lantern slides on practically all our mission fields and on nearly all our mission text-books can be secured from the Young People's Forward Movement Offices.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS.

A Missionary Correspondence Department will add much interest to the League's missionary programme. Have a secretary appointed who will find out members willing to write one letter a month to a missionary. The secretary will give to each of the correspondents the name of the mis-

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tionary to whom he will write that month, and so on throughout the year. Quite a number of missionary letters will thus be written. We have many missionaries to whom we can write. A note is printed on the League letter-head to the effect that this letter is from the League, and the answer can be addressed to the League direct. This saves the missionary writing a reply to every letter he receives, although most missionaries do drop a line to the sender direct, and thus a point of contact is made which is very profitable to the Leaguer.

Send magazines—up-to-date—periodicals, etc., to the missionaries regularly. Don't forget them at Christmas time. If your League is supporting a missionary, treat him as your own, especially at Christmas time

***The Missionary on Furlough.—Receptions.**

The missionary department has a direct responsibility toward the missionary who is home on furlough. Think of what it has cost him in sacrifice to be five or seven years away from home. Then remember that often he comes to the home town unheralded, usually being met only by the pastor, and a friend or two. When a missionary is expected home, let the Leaguers turn out and give him a loving, loyal, rousing reception. Why not? Heralds of the Cross, back from the greatest firing line the world can offer! Do not USE the missionaries, but entertain them. The next time you invite a missionary to speak at your League, try this plan: Arrange for supper at a home near the church, or a supper at the church where the officers of the League can have tea with the missionary. Call for him and bring him to the meeting. When the meeting starts let him KNOW you are glad to see him, that you love him, that you ARE really supporting him from the heart. After his address see that every member passes the platform and shakes hands with him. Then, instead of sending him off alone to his stopping place, drive him there, in an auto if possible. Entertain our missionaries, don't USE them, that's all. And when their rest (?) is over, give them the biggest, most enthusiastic send-off you can arrange, full of assurance that your loyal support in prayer and finances will follow them.

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Reporters for Missionary Committees.

One of the best ways to keep up an interest in missions is to appoint home mission and foreign mission reporters. These two will give, at each meeting, one of them an interesting bit of home mission news, and the other an interesting piece of information about foreign missions. The Missionary Committee will appoint these reporters for a month at a time, and will choose the brightest members of the society. Especially pick out those who know an interesting item when they see it, and know how to give it in an interesting way. Insist upon two things: (1st) that the item shall be given from memory and never read; and (2nd) that the speakers shall go forward and face the society when making their reports. Arrange to have these reports called for at the very beginning of the meeting.

Everybody Helps the Forward Movement.

The Forward Movement is helped by all the secretaries of all the departments of the Church. It is carefully fostered by our pastors and missionaries on furlough. For a quarter of a century the leavening process of prayer, study and giving has been steadily increasing. Thousands have been enlisted and trained, and have grown up and taken their places as missionary leaders, in the pews, in the pulpits, and in the mission fields, while ever-increasing thousands have continued to press forward and take their places in the Young People's Societies and Sunday Schools. The growth has been steady and strong, and there is yet much room for expansion. If all the young people of twenty-five years ago had been enlisted, who can estimate what the missionary power of the Church would have been to-day? As it is, we have an army of many thousands of young people who are ready to help with a Forward Movement that will mean "Victory" for Christ and the Church. Every little effort contributes its part to the accomplishment of "The World for Christ and Christ for the World." The League plan provides the most efficient methods.

Missionary Volunteers.

The list of young people who have volunteered for lifelong service at home and abroad, is rapidly increasing. A large

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number have volunteered at our summer schools, while others have volunteered in the Epworth Leagues. Many of these young people face great difficulties. Some of them have financial obligations at home, and therefore cannot attend school; but even those who are free to make their way face tremendous difficulties. Board is so dear and clothing and other essentials cost so much that it requires a considerable sum of money to attend high school or college. Some of our Epworth Leagues are contributing toward the cost of the education of young volunteers for their respective schools and Leagues. This is a splendid idea, and it would be a fine idea if more of our Leagues would do so. It is just as much a missionary investment to help a volunteer through college and into the active service of the church at home or abroad as to support a missionary on the field. It is a fine thing to support a young man or woman through college and then right out on to the mission field. This is not a very big job—let our Leagues get behind some of their members and “put them through.”

The hope of missions is the response of youth, and the young people of the League WILL respond where intelligent planning provides leadership in thought and action.

Missionary Drills.

Know Your Missionaries.—A five-minute drill on missions, each week, or on Missionary Department evening, will assist in keeping the Leaguers thoroughly acquainted with the missionaries in Canada, Japan and China. Questions such as these may be used: Where are our missions? Where are our Missions to the French? What is our Church doing for the Indians? How many missionaries have we in China? Name the mission stations in Japan, etc. The one conducting the drill can make this a very interesting and instructing part of the programme. Everyone has to be on the alert. Use the pamphlet entitled “Information—Inspiration,” published by the Young People's Forward Movement, Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

Indexing Magazines, Etc.

The Missionary Department will find it a great convenience to their committee work to be able to refer quickly to pictures

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or articles connected with the subjects selected for programmes, mission study classes, or reading circles. An abundance of missionary material is constantly appearing in the magazines and daily newspapers. Have an index prepared, and whenever the department or committee find acceptable material put the magazine or paper on file, or cut out the article and paste it in a scrapbook, entering the title and other information on the index in alphabetical order. Each article or picture should be numbered. This plan of collating material is valuable and the department will find it growing in value each year. If this index takes the form of a card catalogue, each member of the committee, and each member of the society that is willing, might be supplied with cards to be returned at specified times, each person examining a particular magazine or book; and in this way much material might be secured with comparatively little trouble.



Novel Card used by an Epworth League for distribution
at Sunday Church Services.

The LITERARY and SOCIAL DEPT.

5 COMMITTEES

1. BIBLE STUDY

Study of the Bible.
Daily Bible Reading.
Pocket Testament League.

2. LITERATURE

Study of Good Literature.
Reading Circles and Clubs.
Study Classes, Church History.

3. PROGRAMME

Lectures, Debates, Contests, Spelling
Matches, Mock Parliaments, Community
Open Air Concerts, Socials and Picnics.

4. SOCIAL

Promote Social Interests.
Welcome Strangers.
"Get Acquainted" Plans.
Maintain Reading and Social Rooms.

5. FLORAL

For the Pulpit, League Room and the sick.
Maintain League Flower Beds or Green-
house Plots.
Have Flower-growing Contests.

MAKE the League attractive by Christian person-
ality, friendship and activities. Not a club—but
a wide open, clique-killing, social organization.

**The Epworth League—The Social
Centre of the Community for
the Young People.**

CHAPTER XII.

THE LITERARY AND SOCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Through the activities of this department provision is made for our intellectual and social nature, which is carried on under the direction of five committees. This department appears to fall into two distinct groups, yet so closely related that the highest success of each is dependent on the other. Those who planned the organization recognized that the Bible must have first consideration in the literary programme of the League, and that the social activities must be regulated by its teachings.

"Were all the seas one chrysolite,
The earth a golden ball;
And diamonds all the stars of night,
His Book were worth them all."

1st. THE BIBLE STUDY COMMITTEE.—The Bible is a great literary work, and will provide material for many interesting and profitable programmes. (Note * on page 136.)

This committee will co-operate with the organized Bible classes in promoting systematic Bible study among the members. Arrangements may be made with the teachers of the Bible classes to follow certain courses which may be announced at the League meetings, and occasionally reviewed there.

Encourage the daily reading of the Bible—plan for the reading of one or more books per month. Make selections for each day; print these on slips of paper and distribute to the League members. Take a vote occasionally to find out who have faith; fully followed the programme.

Promote an "Every Member Carrying a Sword" campaign, which will enrol the membership after the plan of the Pocket Testament League. Every Leaguer should carry at least a

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Testament. This will accomplish great results in establishing the Leaguers as Bible students.

2nd. The LITERARY COMMITTEE promotes the reading and study of wholesome literature. It is appalling that to-day so few of our members take time to read good literature, prose, or poetry. It should be a prominent feature of our work to cultivate the intellectual desires of our young people, and by carefully prepared literary programmes create and maintain a taste for the best literature.

Where possible encourage Reading Circles, Literary Study Clubs, Debating Series, etc. Through these the Literary Committee will employ for good, powers that otherwise would lapse into idleness, or be destroyed by sin. The leader of this committee should be especially qualified intellectually, and also be a member of the Programme Committee.

3rd. THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE.—Literary programmes require special planning, and should be of the highest order. It is advisable to have a strictly literary programme once a month, and this should be provided entirely by the League members. Here is an opportunity to develop talent.

Arrange for debates (see page 148), contests in oratory or elocution, essays, etc. Occasionally challenge other young people's societies.

Hold Community Open-air Concerts in the summer months.

Old fashioned spelling-matches provide good entertainment. Ask the Principal from a local school to conduct one and announce the programme publicly.

A very interesting programme, and one that can be conducted by the Bible Study Committee is the "Sword Drill." Every member in the meeting has a Bible. The members are divided into two sides. The leader calls out a scripture passage, such as John 3: 16. The first who finds the passage and reads it correctly registers one point for his side. At the end of a given time the side having the greatest number of points is the winner. This will emphasize the necessity of knowing the location of the books of the Bible.

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Some interesting literary programmes will be found in chapter 25.

4th. THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE.—The Epworth League should be the social centre for the young people. We have heard the League criticized and called "a sparking society." Our conviction is that there is no better place for our young people to meet and enjoy social fellowship than under League influence. What parents would not rather know that their young people were at League forming desirable friendships, than exposed to the often questionable influences of public resorts, concert halls, or on the streets? Let the League make good as a centre where wholesome social enjoyment may be obtained.



Bathurst St. Methodist Church

Senior Epworth League

Toronto, 7th August, 1918

The Epworth League Meeting on Monday Evening next (11th inst.) will take the form of

a Picnic to Centre Island

Tea will be served at 6.30. Games of all kinds will be held. We want every League member and friend to come. Come as early as possible **EXPECTING to have a JOLLY-GOOD-TIME.**

An Invitation Card. Mailed to Leaguers and Friends

and where young men and women will meet those whose friendship will be edifying. If the League will maintain its standard there will be no doubt about its influence in the community contributing to the development of the highest stamp of Christian young people.

This committee will co-operate with the Lookout Committee of the Christian Endeavor Department in welcoming new members and strangers to the League, getting them acquainted, and in every way possible making them feel really "at home" in the services. See * on page 46.

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The committee should arrange a series of at least four social evenings or picnics during the year, when, if possible, the members should meet for tea, followed by a social evening. Or if the tea is not practicable, have a social evening, with refreshments. This will ensure a breaking down of much of the strangeness that exists between so many members. The committee should take advantage of such evenings to smash "the cliques." See chapter 25 for social programmes.

Remember that the League is not a club—but a wide-open church social organization. Reading, social recreation, and game rooms will contribute much to the popularity of this phase of League work.

Two books are cheerfully recommended to this committee—"Social Plans for Young People," by Christian F. Reisner; "Social to Save," by Amos R. Wells. Both may be procured at the Methodist Book Room, Toronto.

5th. THE FLORAL COMMITTEE.—"Social Plans for Young People" says: "Flowers spiritualize the regular services. The pulpit gives a better message if blossoms smile near by. The individuals in the audience value a flower, and it helps to open their hearts. A beautiful and tasty exterior and lawn advertise a high-class working church." Isn't that true? And this gives us an idea of how the Floral Committee can become of real service to the church as a whole. Provision should be made for a constant supply of flowers throughout the entire year, especially in the spring and summer. The League and church services will be made bright and attractive by having plants arranged around the platform or pulpit.

It is a splendid plan to decorate the pulpit on Sunday with the flowers, the pastor drawing attention occasionally to this phase of League work, and then at the close of the evening service the members of the Visiting and Relief Committee take the flowers and distribute them to sick friends. Or this may be done after Sunday School, which is preferable. See page 62†

"**League Flower Beds**" are arranged for by some Leagues on the church grounds, or at the homes of members. Arrangements might be made with a local florist for the maintenance of a greenhouse plot, which would greatly help in securing flowers during the winter months.

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Flower Growing Contests for League members are interesting. The local florist will be very glad to co-operate in arranging this contest, taking an interest in its progress, and acting as judge at the close of the season. Suitable prizes should be awarded to the winners and the flowers used in church decorations and placed at the disposal of the Visiting and Relief Committee of the Christian Endeavor Department. Note the reference to this committee work on page 62*.

The committee could interest itself in a "Community Flower Growing Contest," open to anybody whether League members or not. Take entries in the spring, announce where the flower beds of the different contestants are situated, and sustain interest by referring to them from time to time. A valuable book on "Flowers and Plants" might be awarded in the fall as a prize, to be presented on a special "Flower Night" at the League. The League room should be profusely decorated with flowers, and the programme arranged accordingly.

"An Evening in Africa"

***Come, on Monday next, December the 15th
to HOPE METHODIST CHURCH at 8p.m.***

AFRICA
*Its People
& Customs*

**and enjoy a programme of
PICTURE and SONG**

AFRICA
*Its Needs
Its Wonders*

Under the Auspices of the Epworth League Young Peoples Society
The entire programme is to be given by Electric Stereopticon. You will be sure to enjoy it
Everybody--Young and Old, WELCOME || A Silver Collection will
Children must be accompanied by Adults || be received at the door

Don't Forget-- **NEXT MONDAY**
Bring a friend **EVENING**
WITH YOU From 8 until 9

A Newspaper Advertisement.

The League **CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP** Department

The Church's Duty is :

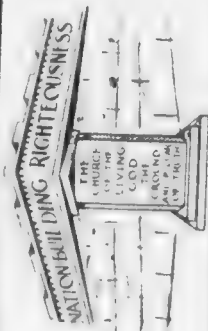
1. To WIN the world for Christ :
2. To provide Leadership in Righteousness. 2 Peter 2 : 17 :
3. To ESTABLISH Christ's Kingdom. Matt. 6 : 33.

BEGINNING WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE :
Forbid them not, for OF SUCH is the Kingdom.
IN, WITH, and FOR the Kingdom.

By 5 COMMITTEES the Department seeks to promote the Ideals and Practices of Christian Citizenship

1. PATRIOTIC <i>Length is the Soul of Religion.</i> Promote Loyalty. Study History of Canada and Empire. Red Cross and War Work.	2. POLITICAL <i>Christianity Makes a Nation Great.</i> Educate Regarding Laws, Franchise, and How to Use Them. Study National Agreements. Local Politics. Local Administration.	3. TEMPERANCE <i>Liquor never leads to Liberty.</i> Extinction of Liquor Traffic. History of Prohibition. Scientific Teaching re Intoxicants. Pledge Signing. Assist in Enforcing Local Laws	4. MORAL REFORM <i>Impurity saps the Nation's Vitality.</i> Study Community Conditions. Immigration. Sabbath Observance. Promote Purity Interest. The Clean Life.	5. ATHLETIC <i>The Play Life is as rebellious as the Pray Life.</i> Indoor and Outdoor Sports. Organize Athletic Clubs in the Church. Study Physical Development. Motto : "Strength for God."
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The Church is
NOT to dictate,
but to **LEAD**.



CHAPTER XIII.

THE CITIZENSHIP DEPARTMENT.

This department has more than justified its existence as a department of League work. It was first introduced into the League plan by the General Conference of 1910. At that time some were doubtful about the wisdom of introducing this new department, wondering whether we were not going outside of our field by interesting ourselves in citizenship and athletic matters. But the Church exists to influence and purify citizenship, for no nation is greater than the power of goodness in the character of its citizens.

At one time it was a point of dispute as to whether a Christian should take part in municipal matters or not. It is now an established fact that the Church must take her rightful place in everything that contributes to righteousness upon earth, in social, economic, and political matters. We cannot pray "Thy Kingdom come," and then sit back and let the devil work out his pernicious policies.

What a revelation the citizenship department has been to the Leaguers. What a remarkable tribute this department is to the fact that surely the Holy Spirit was at that time, 1910, preparing our young men and women for the demands that were to be made upon them in the few years that should follow; preparing them for what was to be the "new day," the time we have now entered upon. Years before its adoption the League has been preparing the young women for the time when they would exercise their franchise, and for the public service demanded from them because of war conditions. Since the war most people have changed their minds about women's suffrage. During the war women maintained a spirit of devotion and sacrifice in Canada that must be recognized. Avenues of employment have been opened to women that previously were not considered suitable for even a moment.

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Responsibilities have been placed upon them that a few years ago would have been considered unreasonable. And they have proven themselves efficient in every case. In our citizenship department provision must be made for educational features which will direct our young women in their attitude toward this new day for them. We must face the opportunity thus afforded, and maintain a high and lofty tone in our service to king and country. The introduction of women into politics and civic affairs will have a most edifying effect upon many offices. Our Leagues will supply young women capable of adequately fulfilling the duties devolving upon them when they are placed in positions of public trust and honor. Years before, this department was preparing our young men for that day when the nation should call to war, and what a tribute it is to the loyalty of our Leaguers when we remember that our Leagues were practically depleted of young men for over four years.

Leaguers will find this department brim full of interesting enterprises, and association therewith will awaken within them an interest in local town or city affairs which will prove profitable.

Let us remember that the **CHURCH'S DUTY** is three-fold:

- 1st. To win the World for Christ.
- 2nd. To lead in Righteous living
- 3rd. To **establish** Christ's Kingdom.

beginning with the Young People, for Christ set that standard: "Forbid them **not**, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Wonderful, indeed, that Christ starts the children there; in the kingdom! Thus the League will

Begin **IN** the Kingdom,
WITH the Kingdom,
FOR the Kingdom.

To successfully promote the Christian Citizenship idea of the League, five committees are suggested:

1st. **The PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE**—Which shall promote loyalty to the Empire, encourage the study of Canadian and British history. They shall promote Red Cross interests.

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associate themselves with war work, etc. Special programmes should be arranged several times during the year, in which such matters as "How we got the Flag" can be explained. See suggested patriotic programmes in chapter 25.

2nd. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE.—Shall promote interest in and understanding of laws of Canada, our franchise and how to use it. Keep League well acquainted with current national events and questions. Keep League well informed upon matters of local interest upon which the members may have an influence or vote. Study new conditions born of the war.

3rd. THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.—Definite interest in and support of every measure that means the total extinction of the liquor traffic. Our Leagues must rally to the support of those departments of our Church and all other movements that are interested in prohibition. "The fight is on," and 'twill be won only by the prayerful and persistent effort of the Church en masse. Leaguers have a tremendous responsibility in this matter, and this committee constitutes the leadership that should inspire every phase of League work with the determination to have prohibition, empire wide, for Christ and the Church.

Study the history of prohibition. Arrange programmes giving scientific teaching about alcohol and narcotics.

Assist in the maintaining of existing prohibitory laws.

4th. MORAL REFORM COMMITTEE.—The convener of this committee (in fact, or any worker of the citizenship department) should communicate with the department of Evangelism and Social Service, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, and they will gladly send full information in the form of interesting pamphlets, outlining the policy of the Methodist Church in relation to these questions.

Study community conditions and problems, and suggest ways in which the League or Church might lead or co-operate with existing agencies for the bettering of the social and moral conditions of the community.

Assist in maintaining better observance of the Sabbath

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Study immigration questions and keep the League informed regarding immigration matters throughout the Dominion. An immigration officer might be obtained some time for a special address on the situation in Canada.

5th. THE ATHLETIC COMMITTEE.—Rev. C. S. Applegath said when he saw our chart for the first time: "The Play Life is as religious as the Pray Life," and the more we think about that the more are we impressed with the truth of it. Why should not the League direct the athletic interests of the membership? Why should our young people have to go **outside** the Church every time they wish to join a tennis club, or a ball team, or a hockey club? We should arrange to hold all these activities within the confines of the Church's control.

This committee will arrange indoor and outdoor games, meets, contests, etc.

Watch out for and be the leaders in the organization of the Athletic Club for boys and girls, young men and young women. The young people **will** have their clubs. Let the League be the first to suggest the organization when once the need is apparent.

Study and promote the healthful development of the body. Have a physical director occasionally come and address the League. There is a doctor in your Church who will give you an address on some important subject. Arrange meetings for young men and meetings for young women, addressed by leading physicians.

"Thou shalt love the Lord with all thy strength," is one of the requirements of Mark 12: 30. This committee provides the leadership for so doing.

***Canadianizing the Foreign-born.**

To discourage the formation of further varieties of "Little Italy," "Little Poland," or "Jewry," such as have grown up in many Canadian cities, is a part of the policy of our Government as well as the missionary societies. A foreign-speaking church may be considered a necessity in the initial stage of work among newly arrived immigrants, as it furnishes the only avenue of approach and is the

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surest method of inspiring confidence and establishing sympathy; but it should be, and we understand is, the aim to have English used increasingly, and to promote the teaching of English. Foreigners may also be reached by the English-speaking church, which has workers with a knowledge of the foreign language. The missionary and citizenship departments of our Leagues can do a very real service to our church missionary enterprise by liberally supporting our work among the immigrants. To Canada "Canadianization" must also mean "Christianization," if we are to fulfil our whole duty. Almost every community has a "foreign" centre, avoided by most churches, that provides splendid home mission work for our Leagues. A League in an Ontario town undertook to conduct Christian work among the Italian workmen on the railway. These Italians lived in railway box cars on a siding. Services were held, concerts given, tracts distributed, and much good was done.

A Peace Committee.—Our Leaguers are a most peaceful set, and it is not often that the services of a peace committee would be required to settle differences that might arise among them or between them and their friends. Nevertheless such a committee may occasionally be needed, and its work might prove a real blessing.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE DEPARTMENT.

"He who helps the child helps humanity with a distinctiveness, with an immediateness, which no other help given to human creatures in any other stage of their human life can possibly give again."

Here we seek to win and retain the boys and girls for Christ and the Church. "Retain," because they should not be permitted to drift away from Christ in early life, and then have to be "won" back again. We should seek from the very earliest years to have the love of God shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Spirit, so that they will grow up in Him, in the full knowledge of Christ as a Saviour. The day will come when they will make their individual choice of following Christ or rebelling against the call of consecration to Him. But in the main, the work can be so well done in their hearts that the choice will be easily made in favor of Him, whose they are, and Who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Therefore let us "retain" them for our Lord. This is a glorious possibility. It would be better if every church and home would recognize their responsibility in this regard. We must come to that if we would protect the spiritual interests of our boys and girls. Neglect has characterized much attitude. Mrs. Francis E. Clarke, in her very helpful book, "Junior Endeavor" (which may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto), says: "Are we not teaching and educating our children up to a very high standard of literary culture and forgetting to teach them to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness? The Junior Society is an endeavor to look after these neglected corners in the education of our children, and to help them to put first things first. They are taught the first principles of Christian

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living and service. The **WHOLE** work of the Junior Society is to lead the children to Christ and train them to work for Him."

The "Junior League Hand-Book" says that "By pushing the work among the boys and girls with greater energy and enthusiasm we will enable the Church of the future to be the best friend to the State." This will bear any test we may wish to put upon it to-day.

It is easier to keep a boy and girl from going wrong than to have to win them back after having gone wrong.

Thus we can easily see the importance that should be attached to this phase of Epworth League work. Wherever there is a Senior Society there should be a junior department. It is the most effective method of conducting work amongst children.

It is not our intention in this book to go into the details of organization of the Junior League work. Leaguers are referred to "The Junior League Hand-Book," which may be obtained at the Methodist Book Room. This book covers the proposition thoroughly, and has proven to be of great value to pastor and officers. It should be most carefully consulted before organization, and used constantly afterwards.

The Junior League is based on its own constitution, is a self-managed organization, through its Superintendent is affiliated with the Senior Society, and is intended to be really the catechuman class of the church. See * on page 29.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE SUPERINTENDENT.—In most cases a lady is preferable as Superintendent, for the reason that she can understand the children better, and thus is able to "lead and love" them on in the Christian life. Men superintendents have been known to cultivate very successful junior work, and in any event the lady Superintendent should have several young men on her Junior League staff. We do not encourage the idea of the Junior League being a "training ground" for the older workers. See * on page 29.

The Junior League is entitled to the service of our most efficient workers.

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The qualifications of a good Superintendent may be many, but the most important are:—

Personal consecration to Christ.
Reflecting Christ daily in the life.
A lover of children.
Earnestly seeking their welfare.
Recognizing the child's viewpoint.
Patient and tactful.
Willing to "spend time" in visiting.

She must be a capable entertainer, ready at a moment's notice to catch and retain the children's attention by the use of a catchy little story, the singing of a favorite gospel song, or calling upon this one or that to perform some little service which will effectively impress the rest of the juniors.

The Superintendent, being the fifth vice-president of the Senior League, will thus be kept in close touch with the Senior Executive, and should see to it that the Junior Society receives the attention to which it is entitled. Occasionally she should take her junior officers to the Senior Executive meetings, and thus introduce them to the older members, and the methods of the Senior administration. Arrange with the Senior Executive to be given the programme whenever a fifth night occurs in the month. The juniors can provide the programme, and this will prove to be one of the most interesting and profitable meetings of the month. Watch the interests of the juniors.

THE JUNIOR OFFICERS must be well chosen, and the responsibility of administration placed upon their shoulders. The superintendent must tactfully guide and control everything, but in a way that will not hinder the initiative of the children. Start right and you'll go right.

Make good use of the pledge. It must not be underestimated. Every boy or girl joining the Junior League should sign a pledge card similar to the illustration on page 93. This requires the parents' signatures, thereby cultivating their interest also.

Then the pledge should be placed conspicuously upon the League room wall. Either secure a wall pledge from the Meth-

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odist Book Room, or better still, have some member or friend of the League draw in bright colors one large enough to be framed. Refer to it often, at least once in **every** League meeting. Sometimes open and sometimes close the meetings by repeating the pledge.

Special attention should be given to the work of the **Visiting Committee**. Absentees and sick members should be consistently visited. This will secure the parents' co-operation quicker than any other effort. It shows a **real** interest in the members. See † on page 62.

MEMBERSHIP CARD	
Gerrard Methodist Junior Epworth League TORONTO, ONTARIO	
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">PLEDGE</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise that I will try to follow Him, that I may learn to do the will of God my Heavenly Father in all things.</p> <div style="border-top: 1px solid black; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<p>I desire to become a member of the League, and willingly sign this Pledge</p> <p>Name</p> <p>Parent's Signature</p> <p>Address</p> <p>The applicant has been received into full membership on.....and the No. is</p>
<p>Signed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"> Pastor League Supt </p>

The above is a combined application and Gerrard Methodist Junior Epworth League Membership Card, returned by the Junior on the day of at the League.

CHAPTER XV.

THE INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE.

Wherever possible an Intermediate League should be formed, using the Senior Constitution as the basis of organization. We will note here from "The Junior League Hand-Book":—

"There should be no break in the membership of the League. From the time the smallest junior joins the League, it should be progress. There should be no gap between the junior and adult societies, and there need be none for the Intermediate League is 'the missing link,' as one has termed it. Juniors from six to eight years, and those from twelve to sixteen, cannot be satisfactorily cared for in the one branch or section of the League. And until the boy or girl is 16 he ought not to join the adult society. Let the Intermediate League include all, say, between twelve and sixteen, and in this department you will likely have your best and brightest members, and do your most successful work. The committee work ought to be a prominent feature and the business and consecration meetings may be conducted in a progressive way. Thus the intermediate will be quite at home in the adult society when they graduate therein. The literary work of the League should be well begun in this branch. Many of your members will be in attendance at the High School or in the advanced classes of the public school, and in good mental trim for study. Training them along these progressive lines will prove a sure foundation for a flourishing literary society by and by."

An Intermediate League can be organized and conducted along the four-department line of the Senior League; or in separate boy and girl groups, taking Canadian Standard Efficiency Training and Canadian Girls in Training programmes, but affiliating with the League work of the local church.

CHAPTER XVI. THE MUSIC COMMITTEE.

"Don't sigh—sing."

Special provision should be made in the League for a "Musical Committee," or a "Leader of Song." Many Leagues have long since appreciated the necessity for this provision, and have organized their Music Committee. The Leader should be a capable person well versed in music. It is a good plan to have different members of the Music Committee lead the singing alternately. It is not necessary to take up any time that rightfully belongs to the department in charge of the programme. It is essential to the success of the meeting that the singing be conducted in a bright, catchy manner. A good pianist is also necessary. Some Leagues use a different pianist for each service. In some cases it may be deemed advisable to have a regular leader and pianist, and where this is possible it surely contributes to the effectiveness of the services—but it does not develop new leaders in song or on the piano. Helps for this committee will be found in "The Christian Guardian."

ONE NEW SONG A MEETING.

Make an earnest effort to master the "New Canadian Hymnal." You cannot do this without system. Try the plan of beginning at the beginning of the book and singing at every meeting just one song that the society has not tried, or, at least, does not know. Take them in order, and let the committee meet once a month and become familiar with the four or five which will be used the coming month, so as to furnish a nucleus of ready singers. It will be a good plan also if the chairman of the Music Committee will stand up before the society while you are singing the new song, and beat time.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE RURAL EPWORTH LEAGUE.

Three things express the influence that the Epworth League has in the life of the community: Character, Education, and Service.

Every League should manifest Christian **character**. Every League member must **understand** what is meant by Christian citizenship. Every League member must be a **worker** for Christ.

The Epworth League is fundamentally a "spiritual" organization—and yet it provides for the all-round development of the young people of the community.

Generally speaking, there is just as large a proportion of successful Leagues in the rural communities as in the towns and cities, with as good an attendance; but there are problems of a special character that confront the rural League.

Owing to the alarming depopulation in the rural districts during recent years, the Epworth League work has in many cases been very discouraging.

What has been the reason for the movement of the young people toward the towns and cities? Has it not been because the community life was of a nature that lacked provision for meeting the needs of those young people? They would hear and read of the advantages (?) of city life; of the pleasures, the good wages, and so forth, which they concluded was the sum total of everything that would make life worth while. Nothing around home appealed to them like that.

In many cases keen disappointment is felt because no sooner do brilliant young leaders become trained and useful in the rural work than they leave to go to the towns or cities. The people to whom they go certainly appreciate the new blood and enthusiastic support which thus comes from time to time from the rural districts. Many Leagues are thus splendidly

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supplemented by the steady stream of young people coming in. It should be a matter of great satisfaction to the rural Leagues to know that they are the training ground for so many real leaders.

If the farmer would recognize the place of the Epworth League in the life of the young people and of the community he would assist in solving the problem of keeping the young people at home. In very few cases do the young people leave the country now because of the long hours and incessant labour required of them. But more social enjoyment and recreation might be provided. They have the same natural inclinations as their friends in the city, and these desires should be cared for and satisfied in a wholesome manner. The Epworth League provides a splendid programme for the development of not only the spiritual, but the intellectual, social, and physical natures. The Epworth League can, under sane and consecrated leadership, be made to make country life far more attractive.

More attention will have to be given to the church equipment. The church must be made efficient in its capacity for entertaining and providing for the interests of the young people. The farmer wants the latest and most up-to-date equipment in his barns and on his land. Then why has the church not the same right to have the latest and most elaborate equipment with which to develop the life of the young people, spiritually, morally, socially and physically?

Rev. R. D. Hamilton, on one occasion said, "There is no good reason why our rural constituencies may not have all the modern equipment for social, intellectual and religious activities the same as the latest and most up-to-date barn furnishings, stable appliances, harvesting and cultivating machinery, for assisting in lightening the heavy toil and increasing the pleasure of farm life, thus adding another attraction for the boys and girls to stay on the farm and become producers of the highest type."

If this social, religious, and intellectual development is part of the business of religion, then there is brighter and better days ahead for our rural friends. There is no society in existence which can so adequately do this business as can the Epworth League

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The common humdrum of city life is not to be compared with the charms of God's out-of-doors. The open fields, the pure air, the beautiful flowers, the songs of the birds, the long winter evenings with their grand opportunities for companionship and development which should mean so much to the young, should appeal to the rural folk more than they do.

As Mr. Hamilton further says: "The little home church, so far removed from the maddening crowd, has her mission of untold value and ever-widening scope." Our very best men and women, in and out of active church and missionary activities, have come from the farms. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

So we believe that the Epworth League has a real opportunity in the rural districts, a distinctively rich opportunity, full of promise. What is needed is Consecration and Application on the part of pastor and **people**. Enthusiasm is contagious--and joyful Christian social interest will spread like wildfire.

Happy, then, is that Leaguer who, amid the changes in country life, can contentedly stay "by the job," and be a **rural leader**. Leaders are needed who will courageously accept discouraging conditions and endeavor to cope and overcome every obstacle. Bad roads, long hours of work, few workers, long distances from the church are not adverse conditions which will discourage the consecrated worker. These difficulties can and have been overcome.

The Pastor's Place.

The pastor is the most valuable factor in developing the character of the community. If he has the practical, sympathetic interest of his people behind him, the church will be a dominating factor in the life of the whole township.

His relation to the Epworth League is definite. Oftentimes he is criticised because of the failure of the League effort. If the League is a success he is praised. But let us observe the conditions under which the average pastor on a rural circuit carries on: He may have from three to five churches scattered over an area of 100 square miles, or ten miles each way. Two hundred families may have to be visited. Four months at least

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out of each year are characterized by bad roads and stormy weather conditions, travelling being almost impossible. He must always give first attention to cases of sickness and death, and one case of the latter may take up several days of his time. And yet, in the face of all this, we know of many churches where most successful Leagues are maintained. A little co-operation on the part of the young people in the church with the pastor will overcome all these difficulties. The pastor should be the chief factor in the situation, but he must not be expected to give attention to the detail of organization, neither must he be expected to be always at the League's beck and call. The League should expect and will receive the leadership and support of the pastor, but it must not depend upon him for its success. The pastor for "counsel"—the Leaguers for "action." It would be better for the pastor to give ONE night per month to each of his churches, for planning with the young people regarding the League work. Then the League carry on along the lines planned for the succeeding weeks. It is impossible to hold many executive meetings in the country, and for that reason the monthly business could very well be taken care of at the conclusion of the regular League meeting when the pastor is present. Special attention should be given to **developing leadership** by providing helps for the officers and others, and giving them work to do as "practice"—which is real service for the League anyway. This plan will develop real leaders. Assistance would thus be given to the pastor in accomplishing more permanent results in the interest of the kingdom.

The meetings you take part in are
always the best meetings

The Object of the Rural League.

In this chapter we may appear to be emphasizing the recreative element of the League, yet it is not the purpose to minimise in the least degree that grand and noble object for which our movement stands.

Winning others to Jesus, and training
them in Christian service

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Everything we have said in other chapters about the plans and activities of the League apply to the rural League in just as important a sense. And yet, it is a known fact that many of our friends in the country have not the opportunities for organized social enjoyment such as our friends in the more largely populated centres have.

From the social standpoint the League possesses the advantage of providing wholesome entertainment and helpful companionship. There is far more social interest manifested in many of our rural Leagues than is shown in many city Leagues. There is no reason whatever why the League should not be the social centre for the young people—providing picnics, parties, sports, games, etc. For it is not sinful. To have a "good time" it is not necessary to sow any wild oats. It is a sad fact that hundreds of our young people, boys and girls, in the country have never been "taught" how to play. Playing may be termed an "art." You can foolishly throw away time, or it can be used for real play, of a character that will make you feel better afterwards. Games, etc., supervised by the Epworth League, may become a real builder of character as well as muscle; entertainments and social gatherings will be conducive to the development of healthy Christian sentiment in the community.

We know of many places where Leagues have been successfully sustained under just as adverse conditions as are mentioned in this chapter. A successful demonstration of what can be done has been provided by a well-known minister on an Ontario rural circuit. He recognized that the League's first object was of a spiritual character, but he is a man that will make and use any means that contributes to the accomplishment of the big idea. No provision had been made for wholesome recreation, so he procured a field and organized all kinds of field games. In a few weeks considerable enthusiasm was aroused, and the young people commenced to come for miles around. After the games a service was held in the church. The League membership grew from about 15 to over 50. When the long evenings arrived more attention was given to the indoor programmes. Good programmes had already succeeded in interesting the young people, and they

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were easily held throughout the whole winter. One evening, when the minister and his wife went to the church through a blizzard, arriving 20 minutes late, they found a rousing meeting in progress, over 75 present. A happy community social life had been created during those summer months, and now the League was the social centre for the whole year. A stereopticon lantern was used, missionary and other views shown, impromptu speeches and debates arranged, social evenings planned. He reached after the young people with devices that drew them to the League meetings, and they came readily. No compromise affecting the spiritual tone of the League was ever permitted, and this tone can be better understood when it is noted that occasionally on Christian Endeavor night the Lord's Supper would be conducted by the pastor. This society gave splendidly to missions, etc. Other sources of amusement that had previously attracted the young people were supplanted by this League's enterprising activities.

All the work in the rural League must culminate in winning the young people to Jesus. That this minister kept this well in mind is shown by the fact that 17 young people joined his church during that winter on profession of faith.

Another rural League meets, during the summer months, every other week at the home of one of the members, a different home on each occasion. The audience sit on the lawn and the programme is given from the verandah. This original idea works fine, increases the attendance, and interests people in the League who otherwise would not be attracted.

Space will not permit mentioning many other instances of rural successes. In most cases these successes were achieved in the face of apparently insuperable difficulties, but it simply proves that "Where there's a will, there's a way."

In the winter time snowshoeing and skating clubs in connection with the League will provide splendid health-giving sport. One League can take a "tramp" and visit another League, one providing the programme and the other the refreshments. In another rural League the rink at the village is rented one night every two weeks, and a "League Night" advertised. The proceeds in this case go to missions on one night and the League treasury on the other.

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It is advisable for the country Leagues to adhere as closely as possible to the constitution as provided, which in so many centres has been tried and proven successful. Local conditions will determine just how far the society will follow out the constitutional form of organization. A study of the chart "God's Plan," will show that the four-fold plan is necessary to a fulfilling of the purpose in view—the development of heart, soul, mind and strength. (See page xvi.)

Reading Clubs.

The long winter evenings in the rural districts provide splendid opportunities for conducting Reading Clubs under the auspices of the Epworth League Literary Department.

The plan is to secure the names of all those interested, divide them into small groups all located within easy distance of each other, appoint a leader for each group, and then meet on one or two evenings a week for the reading and discussion of a book. Two weeks should be about the length of time allowed for the reading of one book. Suppose that four groups have been arranged for—then four books would be selected, one each on fiction, history, biography, and poetry, or others as may be desired. Each of the four groups would meet in a different home on the same evening and proceed with one of these books. In two weeks there would be a general change, and in eight weeks each group would have read and discussed the four books. Then an evening could be given for a joint meeting of all the groups, and each leader could give a synopsis of the book first read. This would provide a very interesting programme for a regular League meeting.

Or, it might be considered preferable to choose the books, and meet in only one home; reading and discussing one book at a time. In this way all the young people would meet together, and greater social interest would be provided.

A wide circle of influence is thus promoted in the interests of the literary work of the League.

This same plan can be successfully carried out in the interests of the Missionary Department, missionary books being chosen. Real missionary educational work, which would reap magnificent results for missions, akin to the results obtained from Mission Study Classes.

(See * on page III.)

CHAPTER XVIII.

SAVING THE SITUATION.

Like the plant that forces its way up through the sod, and under favorable conditions steadily grows until it becomes a thing of beauty and blessing, so our boys and girls are forcing the claims of young life upon us with growing force. If the conditions around them are favorable they will develop useful Christian characters. It is important that the standard of growth should be: Increase in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man.

The hearty response shown by the 'teen-age toward activities intended to develop these qualities, their acceptance of the many responsibilities reverting to them because of recent world-war conditions, the fact that so many have accepted Jesus as their Saviour, and have become leaders in Church and other organizations, indicate that there need be no hesitancy in definitely considering as a matter of first importance an organization calculated to adequately provide for their development in Christian character and service—the Epworth League.

Religion has pleasures by the thousand; but it is in youth, like morning flowers, that they are enjoyed in all their freshness and sweetness.

The retaining of these young people in continuous Christian service in the interests of our Church is a matter of great importance. So many young men and women have in recent years drifted away from Christ and the Church that we have become alarmed. We must hold our young people for God. Why should they not always be in the Church and never know what it is to be other than Christians and workers for Christ?

There is a widespread awakening of interest in everything that administers to the welfare of the young people. The Church should face the need and welcome the task of making the fullest provision for the most effective methods of securing, developing, and retaining the young people for the Christian

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life and service. **This is our responsibility.** Our conviction in this regard will determine the measure of our success.

The favorable conditions under which the plant life referred to will develop is symbolical of the organization and consecration necessary to assure for the young people proper encouragement in Christian living and service. What better programme for the realization of this idea could be desired than that provided by the Methodist Church in:

First.—The Sunday School for Bible instruction.

Second.—The Epworth League for training in service.

Third.—The Church services for common worship.

Fourth.—The Community for practical effort.

Yet, notwithstanding the organized provision our Church has made, problems have developed and results have in many cases been disappointing. **This constitutes a challenge.** If our existing Church organizations are adequate, then we should promote them energetically; if they are not adequate for the need, we must devise better ways, improving our methods.

The future of the Methodist Church lies in her young people. The Sunday School is dealing with a fair degree of effectiveness with the responsibility resting upon it, and possesses a good equipment and programme for creating and maintaining a love for Bible study. The Epworth League possesses the essential fundamentals that assure the results we so much desire to see in training and actual service. The Epworth League, Sunday School, and other young people's activities, if carefully planned, on a **co-operative** basis, will positively conserve our young people for Christ and the Church.

What is the best basis on which to build in the future? This is the important question for consideration at this unique time in the history of our young people's work. We ask our readers to give careful thought to the following article, contributed by Rev. Denzil G. Ridout—for it can be readily seen that on the plan suggested there comes to the Epworth League of the Methodist Church of Canada a new opportunity to render a greater service in becoming **"THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT OF THE CHURCH":—**

If the young people of Canadian Methodism are to effectively meet the great challenge which the immediate situation

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presents to them, it is imperative that they have an intense conviction as to the importance of the task which is theirs to make young Methodism a vital, victorious force in the life of the Church and the nation. In addition to this strong conviction, which will give birth to enthusiasm and vigor in service, a complete consecration to Christ the Great Leader is essential if our young people are to have a worthy share in helping to fulfil the prayer—"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

But even conviction and consecration are insufficient in themselves. Three other factors, at least, must be recognized if we would have success.

1. ORGANIZATION.—The young people must be carefully organized so that there shall be the most effective expenditure of energy to produce the most efficient service. An army is an organization, and its secret of strength and victory is that it accomplishes by organized effort what a thousand unorganized units could never do.

An organization must be sufficient for the all-round work to be done, and yet it must not be burdensome or complicated. There must be no unnecessary duplication of parts. Such will mean the wasting of energy and the minimizing of effectiveness. The more simple the organization the better! Because of this need, it is necessary that there be amongst the young people:—

2. CO-OPERATION.—In recent years there has been a tendency to multiply organizations in the ranks of the young people, and we find that in many churches there is overlapping of activities, and a measure of unfortunate rivalry amongst the groups, with a consequent loss of harmony in the appeal for consecration and service made. Many, indeed, have left the Church because of the lack of a unified programme, and others have become uninterested on account of failure to unanimously co-operate. We are confident that as our young people realize the urgency of the opportunities now before them in this new era, they will heartily co-operate so that there may be a unified programme for the Young People's Work in the Church and community.

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3. ACTIVITY.—Young People demand by their very natures opportunities to DO something. Not only is this true of the physical nature which is developed as it is exercised, but it is equally a fact that, only as the Mental, Social, and Religious natures function, will there be growth and development. Suppression of these natures is injurious, as also is unwise activity, and the great need of the Church's organization is that a place shall be given for the wise direction of the **ACTIVITIES** of the young people. As they thus DO things, they are "In training for Service."

The later adolescent period—18 to 24 years of age approximately—is so very important in its possibilities for good or for ill, that unless ample opportunity is given for activity and development under Christian influences, the activity will be secured elsewhere, and the perils of youth be more dangerous than most realize. This, then, means that we must give to our young people the positions of responsibility in the work of the young people's department. Too often those who have held office for year after year have failed to realize that the best way to serve the young people is not to do the work for them, but to make it possible for them to do the work as office-bearers themselves. Those who have had experience in the work of the young people's department, and are qualified by such experience to render a service to the department are able best to make a contribution by acting in an **ADVISORY** capacity and by encouraging the young people themselves to "carry on"—even though in youthful innocence and independence they make mistakes. They will thus learn.

With these things in mind the question naturally is asked, "**Where does the Epworth League fit in to the Church's organization for Young People?**"

This problem is due to a fact which did not exist when the League was organized over 25 years ago. At that time the Epworth League was the Organized Young People's Department of the Church. To-day—the Epworth League, whilst potentially the same, has to recognize other organizations in the Church energetically working in the interests of the young people.

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The Sunday School is now organized as it never was before, and the leaders in Sunday School work are rightly mapping out their programmes for every age of pupil from the Cradle Roll to the Adult section. Such organization is also planned with the fourfold requirements of the pupils in view. It is recognized that the Sunday School can no longer be content with its brief Sunday session if it would help boys and girls and young people to grow in the full all-round Christian life—but that it must function during the week time as well, so that the physical, recreational, social, intellectual as well as religious faculties may be trained and guided under direct Christian influence. This means that the Sunday School that has been, is becoming rightly the Church School—projecting its influence beyond the regular Sunday afternoon session.

We find evidence of this in the Junior, Senior, and Intermediate Departments—for each of these groups has a splendid programme of mid-week activities.

The young men's organizations and the young women's organizations that have been established are very numerous. Some have been the outcome of Sunday School classes, others have been established around some outstanding leader, and still others around some special theme or activity.

These facts make the problem of Church organization for our young people's work a very real and pressing one. Its solution is imperative if successful aggressive work is to be done in the future.

The Chart shown on page 109 is an attempt to depict a solution to the problem.

It will be observed:—

1. There are three groups of young people.

- (a) Those who are **IN** the Church. That is, members.
- (b) Those who are **OF** the Church. That is, those who, whilst showing a certain interest in the Church are not yet members.
- (c) Those who are **OUTSIDE** the Church. This group, alas, is larger than the other two put together. Some say as high as 70 per cent. of the young people are not either **IN** or **OF** the Church.

These three groups of young people are the constituency.

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2. What is the object of the Young People's Department?

- (a) To win them for Christ and His Church—and if they have already decided for Him, to help them develop further their own spiritual life.
- (b) To train them for the Christian life of service.

3. The Organization.

Remembering that organization is essential, and that it must be as simple as possible, it is readily seen that the whole group of young people should be recognized as the **UNIT** of organization. In the younger teen-age groups, the Sunday School class or club is considered as the unit, but with young people it is found most efficient and appropriate when the **UNIT** is the whole group of **ALL THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CONGREGATION.**

This, therefore, means that in the Church there should be **ONE UNIFIED AND ALL-INCLUSIVE** organization of all and by all the **Young People**—to be known as the **Young People's Department** of the Church. Our view is that this department is the **EPWORTH LEAGUE OF THE FUTURE!**

Any young person willing to enrol in any one or more of the activities of the Department should be considered a member.

With an organization such as this, based on the principles of efficiency and co-operation, it will be a simple matter to find plenty of opportunity for the activity of the young people to express itself. To this end—all officers of the governing body which might be called a **Council** should be chosen democratically by the young people themselves, and those elected should be from among the young people themselves.

There should be a **President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer** together with **Heads of Departments** (or **Vice-Presidents**) to head up the different activities such as **Bible Study, Church Worship, Training the Devotional Life, Missionary and Service Activities, Citizenship Training, Social, Recreational and Physical Activities, etc.**

(It will readily be seen that these officers are practically equivalent to the present Epworth League officers, only with a wider sphere of functioning—not limited to the mid-week meeting, but to **ALL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.**)

Young People
Outside the
Church

Church Pastor

Young People's Work
Superintendent of Young People's Work

Young People
of the
Church

THE NEW YORK CHURCH

Sunday Sessions CHURCH ATTENDANCE

002047

Class

Class

Class

Class

Class

001001

Through-the-Week Sessions YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

Devotional Dept.

Missionary Dept.

Literary & Social Dept.

Citizenship Dept.

GROUPS AND CLUBS

Bible Study
Prayer Circle

Life Service
Christian Stewardship

Missionary
Study Classrooms

Literary Groups
Reading Courses

Citizenship
Activities

Sports and
Social Events

TRAINED FOR LIFE SERVICE - CONSECRATED TO CHRIST & THE CHURCH

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In addition to the officers mentioned, who will be appointed by **ALL of the young people in their annual meeting**, the Presidents from each organized class or group within the young people's department should be members of the council *ex officio*.

A Superintendent of Young People's work should be appointed, and the Pastor of the Church, the Sunday School Superintendent, and the Teachers of the young people's classes should be **advisory members of the Council**

The duties of the Young People's Council would be: -

To make a careful study of the principles and methods of young people's work in general; to study problems peculiar to the local church and in particular to make a survey of the conditions with reference to young people's lives; to correlate the plans and programmes of the various organizations linked up in the council; to provide constructive and comprehensive plans and programmes suitable to meet the needs of all the young people in the community, and to form a connecting link with other young people's groups in the community for co-operative effort, and to be definitely associated with district and conference young people's activities

The young people's department would meet on Sunday as an integral part of the Sunday School for worship and instruction, and during the week for the training of the devotional life and other activities. The mid-week activities would be determined by local needs and opportunities, and be both of the whole group of young people, and special groups for particular activities. **Such a plan can be worked out in many ways according as the young people desire**

It is our belief that the Epworth League of the future will be the young people's department **of the Church**, and will realize its function as being equally on the Sunday as on the week-night, **co-operating to the fullest possible extent with the Sunday School**

The present constitution of the Epworth League calls for activity in connection with the Sunday School, viz., "The work of the Christian Endeavor Department shall be (d) Sunday School Interests." In the past there has been the tendency to think of the work of the Epworth League as limited to the Sunday School, and to the work of the Christian Endeavor Department.

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outside of the Sunday School activities. There is no need for such limitation of the work of the Epworth League. The League must be the organization in the Church which is composed of **ALL** the young people of the Church, and which must function both in the Sunday sessions and in the through-the-week sessions.

With this larger and more comprehensive programme, the Epworth League has a new day before it, and the young people's work of the Methodist Church in Canada will become more effective and efficient, and let us hope that with a united and consecrated youth, organized in co-operation for service, young people, instead of drifting out of the Church life, will be retained for service for Christ and the Church.

***Solving the Transportation Problem.**

The chief difficulty with winter meetings and sports in country districts is the trouble in reaching the place of meeting, the harnessing of teams, and their stabling. But this might be overcome with a little planning, especially in districts where the telephone is in general use. One team and one sleigh may carry a goodly number of people, and it is easy to notify everybody along a certain road that Mr. Jones' sleigh will call to take them to the League meeting or reading circle. Next time Frank Jones takes his dog, and his neighbor, Phil Smith, has the responsibility of conveying his neighbors to the place. Thus only a few teams need be taken out to convey a fair-sized audience. And in a whole winter of good times the one man has only two or three nights of responsibility. And think of the fun of this concerted travelling!

CHAPTER XIX.

ADVERTISING THE LEAGUE.

By Mr. C. R. CONQUERLORD

Our lives are so compassed about in these days with advertising of all kinds that it hardly seems necessary to suggest to any Epworth League Executive that "it pays to advertise," but advertising in such a large subject with so many forms, that to make any sort of a survey of the possibilities presented to the Epworth League in a short space, the writer must be limited to almost a bare statement of generalities to be transformed by the reader into actual practise in a definite form. In its simplest terms "to advertise" is "to make known." It runs through a series of degrees, from what is frequently given us in the way of "news" reports, displays, exhibits, and so on, to the commonly understood term of "advertising." The wise Epworth League Executive must use as much of the art and skill of good publicity as lies within reach, and this is only limited by the individual initiative of the members, for in no realm of activity is it truer than in publicity that "Where there's a will, there's a way."

There are two essentials to successful advertising: (1) You must have something to advertise worth "making known." (2) You must "deliver the goods" as advertising is better, if you hope to stay in business.

What has the League to advertise, and how shall it be done? When should the League advertise, and where should it be done? The answers in the following paragraphs are given merely as a range of suggested possibilities.

What has the League to advertise?

The answer to this question will depend very largely upon what kind of a League you have, and what you are doing to help up the cause of the League. The constitution of the

The Canadian Youth Leader.

Do you wish to win young people to Christ? Then you have the whole gospel of Christ to advertise, together with its importance to young people in particular, and its relation to the world in general. Are you assisting in the support of a missionary? You have an opportunity to advertise the work being done by this missionary. This will include the slogan of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions: "Pray, Study, Give, Go." Are you providing an attractive social centre in the church for the young people of your community? How shall they know of it unless it is "made known" to them? Are you serving your community and country in a better citizenship movement, by striving to improve living conditions, by supporting patriotic endeavors, by the study of better laws, or the encouragement of those given to the task of enforcing the laws? Then, of course, you will need to advertise your cause to gain co-operative support. Are you rendering a service to your church or young people? Then you may safely adopt the methods of big business houses in "Service advertising," so called because it deals with the policy, method, and price which the firm offers you **WITH** the article they sell, making it pleasant and profitable to do business.

You will have, too, specific things to advertise, such as meetings to be announced, special attractions, etc.

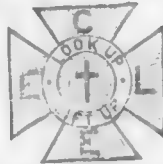
How Should the League Advertise?

The League should advertise in writing, printing and speaking, and certainly the greatest of these is speaking. The "written" advertisement will include form letters, circular letters or personal letters to absent members, to prospective members with reasons for attending or joining the League, or letters to all the members of the League containing items of interest or announcement of meetings. No better practise in either letter writing or advertisement writing could be indulged in than by having your members join occasionally in a campaign of this kind. Home-made posters, using suitable "cut-out" pictures, may be used in an almost endless variety.

"Printed" advertisements are readily understood, and will include books, booklets, leaflets, tracts, programmes, stationery.

AN IDEAL 6-PAGE TOPIC CARD

Simpson Avenue Methodist Church EPWORTH



LEAGUE

Corner Simpson Avenue and
Howland Road

You are cordially invited
to meet with us every
MONDAY evening in the
Adult Bible Class Room
at 8 o'clock.

The Pledge

"Trusting in the help of the Holy Spirit I promise that I will follow the example of my Savior and Lord, and make an honest effort daily in all things to do the will of God, my Heavenly Father."

XXX

Our Object

1. To lead young people to Christ.
2. To promote an earnest intelligent, practical Christian life in the young members and friends of the Church.
3. To assist them in the study of God's Word.
4. To train them in Christian service.
5. To promote good citizenship.

Front and back pages. The List of Officers for the year was also given

TOPICS

- 1921
- Jan. 2—The New Life. 2 Cor. 5: 17; Phil. 3: 13, 14.
- 9—'The Work of the Churches of Canada in Africa. Gen. 8: 26-40.
- 16—'The Cricket on the Hearth.' Dickens.
- 23—Securing the Right to Play.
- 30—Getting Ready for "Decision Day."
- Feb. 6—The Simplified Life. Micah 6: 6-8; Matt. 22: 34-40
- 13—'The Work of the Churches of Canada in South America. John 15: 1-8.
- 20—English Novelists of Today.
- 27—Fourth Meeting of the Quarterly Official Board.

TOPICS

- Mar. 6—The Resurrection Life. Col. 3: 1-4; Rom. 6: 1-11
- 13—Canada's Opportunity and Obligations. John 4: 34-48; Matt. 28: 16-20
- 20—"Lorna Doone." Blackmore
- 27—Meeting of the Municipal Council
- Apr. 3—The Winning Life. Mark 10: 21; 12: 37; John 1: 25-51
- 10—The Forward Movement in Japan and China. Psa. 96
- 17—Debate (subjects to be published later)
- 24—Meeting of School Board
- *The topics for these seven months are based on the new book, "Canada's Share in World Tasks."

Two of the three inside pages of Topics

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newspaper announcements and write-ups for publication of successful meetings or activities. The circulation of books has advertising value, for by broadening the vision it creates goodwill toward League activities. A list of suitable books on Epworth League or Sunday School methods, Soul-winning, and hundred subjects may be obtained from the Book Store of the Methodist Book Rooms, and upon Missionary methods from Young People's Forward Movement Office, Toronto.

The "spoken" advertisement includes announcements of League meetings in League, Sunday School or Church, addresses, sermons or anniversary services, featuring the advantages of the Epworth League to the young people themselves, and to the Church. These may be termed "public" advertisements. The "private" spoken advertisement is the personal invitation, accompanied by a smile or hand-shake. There is no advertisement better, for it is almost irresistible; the beauty of it lies in the fact that the Epworth League has the people to do it. Cultivate the spirit of "boosting" wisely and well for your society, for your officers, for your members.

An Epworth League pledge card hanging on the wall is an advertisement of the Epworth League purpose. The wearing of an Epworth League button, pin or badge not only advertises the Epworth League, but it implies as well that you honor the institution, and the institution honors you.

When Should the League Be Advertised?

If your League is a real church activity it may safely be advertised three hundred and sixty-five days each year. "Every time and all the time" is a much better motto than "When we have time." Benjamin Franklin said, "that what seems 'time enough' usually proves to be little enough." To work out details takes time, and it is only after a long period of study or practice that expert efficiency is acquired in the mastery of details. Attention to details frequently makes the difference between sweeping success and partial failure. If you have a few handy weeds will have a hard time to make headway in your garden, but if you have to buy a hoe or hunt one up every time you want one, the weeds are left until you get more time.

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Keep a list of advertising ideas, thoughts or plans, always on hand, and it will surprise you how useful they will be, not only in the saving of time, but in finding uses for themselves. **Advertise every day.**

Where Should the League be Advertised?

The field which you have to cultivate is all about you. The message you wish to carry must reach the person for whom it is intended in church or out. The final answer to "where" will be "anywhere there are young people."

There remains one more question. "How are you going to get the work efficiently done?" This the executive should decide. In smaller Leagues the "Lookout Committee" should be given the major part of the propaganda work, while the secretary should see that proper announcements of the meetings reach the pastor or editor of the church calendar in good time. "Proper" would not mean the following stereotyped form which is too often used: "The regular meeting of the League will be held on Monday night in charge of the — department. You are invited, as it will be a good meeting." Write the notice in catchy, bright phraseology. In larger Leagues there may be among the members someone specially fitted or specially interested who may be appointed convener of a Publicity Committee, who should attend all the meetings of the executive.

An advertising man once summed up the case for advertising by saying that "Advertising should be consistent, insistent, and persistent."

Be careful of the thing you set your heart on, for it surely shall be yours —Ralph Waldo Emerson

CHAPTER XX.

HOW TO KEEP THE MEETINGS ATTRACTIVE.

Announce a special meeting of the executive, inviting all others who can attend. Let the Social Committee arrange for a happy social hour together, and then have a discussion on "Ways and Means of Making our League Meetings More Attractive."

The President will tell what he would like to see done. Then let those present pledged to the following:—

Be present at every League meeting.

Be on time.

Take part in the Meeting.

Come with cheerful faces.

Come in a spirit of prayer.

When a number of the members are thus pledged together it is surprising the general effect on the whole League.

Further suggestions worthy of note:—

Have the League room well lighted.

Occupy the front seats first.

Rule out **long** preludes and interludes on organ or piano.

Sing in strong clear tones, and in good time.

Every one to be ready at all times to offer a short prayer or testimony when requested.

Request reverence.

Always be ready with some good scripture verses when requested.

Permit no one to be lengthy, not even the preacher.

Never follow the same order—vary the services.

See that the unsaved are given the opportunity to accept Christ

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Close the meeting promptly.

Invite all strangers back again.

Ask them to bring another friend to the next meeting

Always endeavour to have ushers appointed for every meeting. Their work will result in keeping the opening moments of the meeting free from confusion. Frequently opening exercises are spoiled by people trying to find seats, whereas an usher can show them direct to seats available. Ushers should not permit noise or confusion while the exercise of prayer or scripture reading is under way. Ushers can always give a stranger a special welcome. This work might very well be delegated to the Social Committee entirely.

See that everyone has a hymn book, or a song sheet; or at least see that there is one book for every two persons.

Give careful attention to the ventilation. Many a meeting is spoiled by poor ventilation, which is one of the surest methods of sustaining a sleepy audience.

See that everyone who is on the programme is present in the meeting. Do not call their names or apologize if they are not present. What the audience don't know won't worry them, and the League will be free from just that much criticism. Request those taking part to be "ready" as soon as their name is called—wraps all off, violin ready, music ready, accompanist previously advised about the music, etc. Let not a minute be lost—everything moving. Have a hymn all ready to fill in where there might occur an unexpected delay, and don't say, "While we're waiting for Miss So-and-so we'll sing No. 65." Just announce, "Let us all stand and sing No. 65—everybody taking part." Keep the meeting moving along. Close with a catchy hymn that will send the Leaguers away humming it.

Rules for Successful Rainy-Day Meetings.

Do not postpone the meeting because of rain. If you do, the next time a cloud no bigger than a man's hand appears in that sky some will say, "There will not be any meeting to-day."

Do not adjourn because only a small number are present. Reward, by the best meeting possible, those who have come

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Occupy none of the time of those who are present by dilating upon the unfaithfulness of those who are absent. Make no reference to small attendance.

Let there be enough of cheer on the inside to dispel the gloom outside—cheer in decorations, cheer in the programme, cheer in the leader.

Give special place to intercession.

After the meeting send notes to absent members telling them about the interesting rainy day meeting, and announcing some special feature that will be reserved for the next rainy day meeting.

Gerrard Street Methodist Church
Corner of River Street

EPWORTH LEAGUE 1913-1914

OUTLINE PROGRAM

for season, with much more to follow



Every Department fully organized.

Come! To give and receive a good and profitable time

Something of interest for each age and sex

This work will keep you young

Bring any friends with you, we shall gladly welcome them.

EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 8 O'CLOCK

PLEDGE

Trusting in the help of the Holy Spirit I promise that I will follow the example of my Saviour and Lord and make my nearest effort daily in all things to do the will of God my Heavenly Father.

Front page of a League Programme.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE AND PRAYER.

One of the fundamental truths associated with Christian service is "Prayer." Do we really believe that prayer is the primary practical preparation that every Epworth Leaguer needs if he would be successful in his service? Prayer makes the things of God come to us in daily freshness. Prayer brings God to us, takes us direct to Him. In our chapter on the "Epworth League Executive,"* we lay special emphasis on the necessity of prayer for the League and its work. We do so again here. Prayer will extend the League along lines of permanent good in the interests of Christ and the Church. The League exists for development, and prayer is one of the main agencies in that development.

There are no meetings that can be quite so profitable to the Leaguers as those where the one desire is that God will pour out His Holy Spirit. You remember how the disciples, after their Lord's ascension, spent many days and nights in prayer, waiting for the outpouring of the promised Spirit? When the answer came they went out and God was pleased to give them remarkable success. Is the God who fulfils eternal promises any less interested to-day? But we appear to be. The following suggestions are made for a special prayer meeting for the purpose of praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the League and Church:—

Select hymns on the Holy Spirit.

Before prayer, let such scriptures as the right portions of Joel 2, Acts 2, and John 16, with Luke 24: 49, and Zech. 4: 6, be read.

Have a short address prepared on "The Holy Spirit."

Then all kneeling, call upon God for the enduement from on high.

See page 19. Also page 52.

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Pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Pray that Paul's matchless petition in Ephesians 3 may be made true then and there.

Let everyone make an audible prayer.

This waiting upon God will yield such harvests from heaven as will give power to the faint, strength to the weak, comfort to the afflicted, success to the reaper and glory to God.

Some Practical Prayer Suggestions to the Executive.

Begin with the juniors. Encourage them to be reverent during prayer, to join with you in prayer, repeating the sentences after you, and also encourage them to lead in prayer individually in the junior meetings.

Be patient with beginners. We cannot expect to accomplish our purpose in a night. It may take years for one to become an effectual "leader" in prayer.

Make it as easy as possible for the young Leaguer. Let him know beforehand what you are expecting of him, and by all means refrain from submitting him to the cruel ordeal of calling out his name without warning. Consternation and panic will usually and effectually tie up his tongue to the great embarrassment of everybody, and likely he will be absent from League next time.

Try this for a "starter": Select a number of Bible prayers, printed prayers, or prayer verses, and give them to several who will stand and read them during the time allotted for prayer. This will be easy for them to do, and yet those prayers will doubtless mean more to them than they ever did before. Then, too, they will become familiar with the sound of prayer language on their own lips. No printed prayer can always present the wants of the individual, but some of the most effective prayers are the printed ones. (See the book entitled "God's Minute," containing 365 daily prayers.)

Sentence prayers will be all one can expect as a next step. Much depends on the leader in making this a successful means of cultivating prayer. It is not very helpful for our purpose just to ask for sentence prayers. Often this request is followed

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by a long embarrassing pause, and then an "old-timer" (not with disrespect to the "old-timers") begins and prays for five minutes. Then the leader prays, and it is "all up" for that night as far as beginners are concerned. **Get the consent of the young people beforehand.** Even designate who shall pray first. Be sure to ask two or three or four, because they like to have company. Then close with one sentence yourself—**one sentence**, remember. A long, proficient prayer then might prove disastrous.

Be sure to ask for prayer for something definite—some missionary campaign or sick person. The ordinary young man or woman can formulate one sentence of prayer for some object of interest.

When once a young Christian has been induced to offer prayer in his own words the task is virtually accomplished. To keep him at it, to keep his interest in prayer and prayer-objects alive, to guard him from discouragements and to maintain a healthy atmosphere of devotion, will constitute the "follow up" work.

Guard against "long-windedness," a malady often fatal to young people's prayer-meetings; beware, also, of sing-song or stereotyped prayer. The normal young person used only to conversational language will not likely have a desire to become proficient in prayer of that kind. Let the prayers be genuine, sincere, attractive, and natural.

Print on a large sheet of paper a short prayer selected or written by the pastor. Hang the paper in front of the society, and have the society repeat the prayer in unison either at the beginning or the close of the meeting.

The Christian Endeavor department ought to make sure that this part of its work receives sufficient emphasis. To train the young folk to pray is its particular duty, and if it fails, who will do it? Plan occasional evenings on prayer. Brief papers on such subjects as these will be helpful:

"The Meaning of Prayer."

"Examples of Prayer."

"Answers to Prayer."

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Prayers in Song.

Many hymns are prayers. Let the Music Committee study the hymn-book and select a number of hymns that are prayers. On a large sheet of paper write the numbers of the first lines of a number of such hymns. Hang this paper before the society and ask the members when selecting hymns to use the ones on the paper, unless they have a prayer-hymn of their own to suggest. A happy addition to this plan would be to have one member ready, immediately after the singing of a prayer-hymn, to speak a few words about the prayer in the hymn. Vary the singing by having the boys sing one stanza, the girls another, and so on.

When You Pray in Public

Let your voice be helpful in its tone.

Whether you stand or kneel, speak so all can hear.

Let your petitions be suited to the occasion and to the people.

Be very reverential in your approach unto God.

Trust inwardly for the help of the Holy Ghost, that you may have unction.

Brevity, with great faith, will add power.

Mingle adoration, thanksgiving, and praise with the petitions.

If there is disorder or noise in the room, wait until it ceases before you begin.

Often have the people follow you in posture when you pray; all kneeling, or all standing, or all bowing their heads.

The length of your prayer should depend largely upon the facts as to whether others are to follow, or yours is to be the only audible petition.

The use of Scripture, both in promise and petition, is most helpful.

If you hesitate to take part in public, being afraid you cannot pray "intelligently," follow these suggestions:—

Write out your prayer beforehand.

Read it over several times a day before the meeting.

On the evening of the meeting tear up the copy.

When the opportunity comes, stand up boldly, and in a clear voice tell God the thoughts as they come into your mind

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When to Pray and What to Pray For.

Always when you arise in the morning and when you retire at night, kneel by the bedside and briefly thank God for all His mercies, and request Him to continue them.

Once a day remember your loved ones and friends by name.

Pray for the President, officers of the League, the members, and your pastor.

Remember the General Secretary, the connexional officers, all the departments of the Church, our missionaries, and the mission stations.

When leaving home for the day, offer the following prayer for guidance during the day:—

"Suggest, direct, control this day,

All that I think, or do, or say.

For Jesus' sake, Amen."

When tempted **not** to pray, be sure **then** to pray. That is just when you will need it most

Thy Faithfulness reacheth unto the Clouds

PSALM 36: 5

The inner side of every cloud

Is bright and shining.

I, therefore, turn my clouds about,

And always wear them inside out,

To show the lining.

"Give others the Sunshine, tell Jesus the rest."

CHAPTER XXII.

THE VALUE OF THE EPWORTH LEAGUE SUMMER SCHOOL.

It was an excellent idea—that of a company of young people being gathered together for a week or ten days, devoting themselves to the study of the Word of God, principally in its bearing on Christian

Life, Character, and Service.

Afterwards these people scatter far and wide, and it is only then that the great work of the summer school really begins. Truth is not a commodity to be stored; it is a sanctifying force. If this be true, the effects of the school will be felt in the homes, churches and communities represented. One of two effects will most certainly be produced in every case by those who have gathered and who profess to have received blessing and a knowledge of better methods for Christian work. If the blessing consists only in a new system of thought concerning the ways of God, then the result may be a new pride more harmful than anything that is cast out. If the young people go back to their home, church or civic life with an overwhelming sense of their own superiority in relation to Christian service, the effect they will produce will be disastrous. On the other hand, if the vision they have received has been that of "Jesus only," if they recognize the great opportunity offered everywhere for service, show a consecration and determination to undertake their duty for Christ and the Church, then their lives will become channels of blessing to all their associates and in every place. **Many have so seen Him**, and therefore the actual service of the school is manifest throughout the whole year. This is what justifies the holding of Epworth League Summer Schools.

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE WHY AND HOW.

THE ELUSIVE YOUNG MAN.—How can we get the young man interested who is outside the League? Find out what he thinks of and expects from the League. A young man of 16 years is a **real live** young man, you know. Some call him a strange creature. Don't try to force him into the League. He doesn't want to come and hear "clippings" read. He wants real stuff. He hates sham. Real vigorous work, requiring "steam," appeals to him, and he is right there when there is something doing. Frame your League work with that in mind, and you'll get the young men. Masculinize your League a little more. Use a Y.M.C.A. man occasionally—link up with the "Y" in some things. Young fellows like to link up with manly young men, and once you get "this" going, they'll work with you vigorously to make the League attractive to young men. The League is big and broad enough to provide an abundance of wholesome work for the young men. Study the young man's viewpoint.

DO MEMBERSHIP CONTESTS PAY? The ending is what has spoiled the good effect of many a contest. The goal should be members. **Then** the work has just begun. In most contests the tendency has been to consider the **means of more importance than the end**. One thing that is fatal to permanency is to count the machinery more valuable than the output. Both sides in the contest should be keenly alive to the problem, and remember the object in view and what to do **with** the new members after the contest is over—in that event contests **are all right**. Remember the **OBJECT** of the League—Winning for Christ and His service. Don't permit compromise to creep in on a contest. You'll miss the mark. There is no danger of the new members suffering neglect if the Executive understand their duty and recognize that the work is only **begun**.

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There is a constant need for new members, and it is a good thing to occasionally have some wholesome rivalry in the securing of them.

Here is how Brampton St. Paul's League undertook a contest:—

"In September we appointed two captains and divided our League into two sides which called themselves the Fishers and the Catchers. We allowed two points for every member present, one point for a visitor, and three points for a new member. Fifty points were the maximum for an evening's programme and we had judges to judge the programmes. The contest was on for October and November, each side having four meetings. The result of the two months' work gives to the Fishers fifty-four new members, and to the Catchers forty one, making a grand total of 95 new members."

They kept the "aim" well in view, as is shown by the following sentence appearing in their report.

"We pray and ask you to pray for us that we may be able to hold and bring into closer touch with Jesus Christ all these new members."

WHY A PLEDGED MEMBERSHIP.—Because our Pledge (see page 12) is in full accord with what any and every Christian should "be" and "do." It is a confession of faith and duty. It is a help toward faithfulness. It builds a solid wall around dangerous places. It is the expression of our truest convictions. It is a practical and constant reminder of our obligations. The Epworth League must create a demand for it and its product, or it will fail. There are plenty of prospects. But they must be secured by making them **want** what the League offers. There are thousands of **ways**, but they **may** all fail. Everything depends on personal devotion and faithfulness of the membership in making the Christian life attractive. The Pledged Membership will assure that type of Christian character that will make the Epworth League attractive and bring others to it.

SHOULD ELDERLY PEOPLE WORK IN THE LEAGUE?—"Religion has pleasures by the thousand," said James Caghey, in his book, "Earnest Christianity." True, but it is in youth, like morning flowers, that they are enjoyed

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in all their freshness and sweetness. The Epworth League was designed to be a **young people's organization**. We heard a man of fifty say one time, when he was elected to an office in the League, that **this** made him feel like "sweet sixteen." Perhaps it did, but he filled the office like a man of fifty, and he was not altogether a success. While the Epworth League should have, and appreciates the support of the older people, yet experience proves that it is far better to confine the membership, and especially the officers, to what are strictly understood to be "young" people. We make no attempt to fix an age-limit—that's not necessary. The League is a training organization, and when they have received all it has to offer they should go into other church activities, the missionary societies, weekly prayer-meetings, etc. Youth, capable, teachable, promising, finds its place in the Epworth League and the League to be really successful should be officered by young people.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MARKS OF A GOOD SOCIAL?—No stiffness, no formality, no neglected folks, no cliques. Freedom of movement. Cultivate the **fine art** of conversation. The good social has a well-understood, pre-arranged purpose: To recognize that the social life is a Christian privilege. To send everyone away at the close of the evening feeling that "It was good for me to be here—I have friends."

SHOULD WE ENCOURAGE SECULAR PROGRAMMES?—We do not need to compete with outside attractions. Self-respect and loyalty to the League ideals should be the standard by which every programme is measured. Any feature that contributes to the moral or spiritual uplift of the young people is worthy of a place in the League programme.

SHOULD WE HAVE GAMES IN THE CHURCH?—Satan would have some people believe that "religion is a dry creed with all the pleasure and laughter squeezed out." Some religions may infer all that, but Christianity certainly does not. Don't run away with the idea that "fun" can only be satisfactorily secured outside in the world. The League plans to promote clean, wholesome entertainment, of a character that will refresh and stimulate good fellowship—games, sports, etc. It

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is not necessary for our young people to be "carried away" with this sport idea. But they need just so much and no more, if they would develop an all round present day enthusiastic young people. Carefully and prayerfully planned social and athletic activities, with a high motive and under the guidance of intelligent and unprejudiced leaders, will prove profitable. We know of many cases where opportunities have thus been afforded for definite personal soul-winning. At one social in an Epworth League meeting a young man was won for Christ who afterward entered the Methodist Ministry. At an athletic meet under the auspices of another League a young man gave himself to Christ, and is now in active Y.M.C.A. work in Toronto. The standard should be—What will contribute to the kingdom?

STUDY COURSES.—"The Young Christian," a little book prepared by Rev. S. T. Bartlett, is suggested as one text book for study courses or reading circles. The book contains twenty studies, so effectively arranged that the interest grows as you proceed. The secret of this book's popularity is that it touches the real things of life in the development of character and guidance of conduct. Young Christians will grasp easily and quickly the fundamentals of the Christian faith, as the truths are unfolded. Try it in your League. "The Young Church-Member" is another book that will be found profitable for study courses.

SOCIAL PLANS.—A book that is the product of experience is "Social Plans for Young People," written by Christian E. Reisner, D.D., who for years had a social church as his ideal. His supreme aim in life was to make disciples for Christ, and in this he was a great success. So we can with assurance recommend his book to Epworth Leaguers everywhere—it contains many workable plans that will surely prove "a means to an end."

The books recommended above may be obtained at the Methodist Book Room, Toronto, Canada.

CHAPTER XXIV.

PLANNING PROGRAMMES.

The planning of the programme should be accepted as an act of service just as much as any other phase of Christian work—for so it is. There are young people who can easily plan a most interesting and profitable programme. But the majority of our young people find this work very difficult.

If several simple rules are observed, the way to a successful evening's programme can be made easy. Here they are:

First—Know the "object" of the meeting. Every meeting should have a definite "aim" in view. For instance, the Missionary Department has twelve meetings in the year. Each should be along some definite line, all working up to a climax, or the accomplishments of some educational or inspirational feature. KNOW what that climax is intended to be; KNOW what part each meeting is to contribute to its accomplishment. Note the topics provided for the Leagues (see page 132).

Second—Plan and write out what you think would be the best features necessary in order to obtain the objects in view. Then revise your plan carefully.

Third—Select those who should assist on the programme. Distribute this opportunity as much as possible throughout the membership. Have as many as convenient take part—every feature of the programme taken care of by someone. One can give out a hymn, another read the lesson, others take the offering, etc., etc.

Fourth—Consult with each one taking part and get their ideas. This will create in them definite interest in your plans. Ask them all to be at the meeting sharp on time.

Fifth—Now arrange the programme placing the hymns, reading, prayers, etc., in their order. Review the programme carefully too.

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Sixth—When the evening for the programme arrives, see that the room is tidy, and everything ready. Watch "every little thing." Get all in "apple-pie order."

Seventh—*Start on time*, no matter how few are present, start.

Eighth—See that everyone taking part in the programme **acts promptly**. Avoid fussy delays. Note paragraph (*) on page 118.

Ninth—Keep every moment occupied.

Tenth—Close on time.

Eleventh—Have the Lookout and Social Committees ready to welcome every stranger, and to maintain a real happy feeling throughout the evening.

Twelfth—**DON'T FORGET**, the most important thing is to pray often for your meeting, no matter what the nature of that meeting may be.

You will surely have a real interesting programme. Remember that it is not necessary to have accomplished singers, or readers, in order to have a good programme. Use every talent you have in the League—the whole "ten." Don't bury any. By so doing wonderful "discoveries" will be made. You will find that right in your League or Young People's Society are many who are capable of brilliant accomplishments. They may blunder occasionally at first—but "practice makes perfect." The League is the place where they should get their start. This all creates an interest that is contagious—an interest in each other, in the programme and its success.

*There must be an all-round working
out of the purpose of the society.*

CHAPTER XXV.

SOME ORIGINAL PROGRAMMES.

THE WEEKLY TOPICS.

In the arranging of programmes be sure to consider the Weekly Topic Lists, supplied ONLY by the General Board. For 50 of these, send direct to the General Secretary of S.S. and Y.P.S., Wesley Buildings, Toronto, remitting 10 cents.

It is advisable that as far as practicable these topics be used. They are planned in a constructive manner, and will certainly prove of profit. "The Christian Guardian" offers splendid suggestions for the topics. Use the printed expositions only as a basis for your programme and work into it your own ideas, plans, etc., thus developing initiative and originality. "The Christian Guardian" is for guidance and instruction—not for the purpose of saving you time in getting up a programme. See page 114.

HINTS FOR TALKS AND TESTIMONIES.

What shows the value that Christ sets on individual work?

What is to be learned from Christ about the best methods of individual work?

Why is individual work often the most effective?

What are some religious conditions to-day especially calling for individual work?

Illustrate by one instance what may be accomplished by individual work for Christ.

What decides one's own special field of work?

In what ways does a Christian worker sometimes lessen his effectiveness?

What can a Christian worker do to make his work more effective?

What relation is there between one's regular calling and one's power as a Christian worker?

What are some of the results of individual work that show themselves in the worker?

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AN EVENING WITH FRANCIS R. HAVERGAL.—

Francis Ridley Havergal's poems have brought blessing and comfort to tens of thousands of people in every land. A most profitable evening's programme can be arranged with her poems. The following suggestion is one that has been used many times, and always created great interest:

Hymn—"I Gave My Life for Thee."

Prayer.

Recitation—Poem, "To Thee."

Hymn—"I Am Trusting Thee Lord Jesus."

Address—"Life of Francis R. Havergal."

Solo—One of her selections.

Recitation—One of her selections, "Misunderstood."

Closing hymn—"Now the Sowing and the Reaping."

Other features can be introduced as circumstances will permit. Probably a picture of Miss Havergal could be secured in the form of a slide for use on the screen.

A "WHITE" SERVICE.—Truth carried to the heart by the eye is very effective. The following service, easily arranged, is most impressive:

1. Announce it as a "white service" to give the lesson of purity.

2. Trim the desk, organ, and room in white.

3. Ask all who come to wear white, and all the leaders and singers in front to be sure to do so.

4. Every one to wear white flowers, and have the same in confusion all about the room.

5. All hymns to bear that stamp, like "More holiness give me," and "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

6. The following Scripture to be presented in a varied and attractive manner.

Isaiah i, 18: "Sins as crimson and scarlet, shall be as snow."

Psalm li, 7: "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Rev. iii, 5: "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed white raiment."

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Rev. vii, 14: "These are they which have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

The truth to be presented is:

1. None naturally clean.
2. All, supernaturally, can be made so.
3. God alone can purify the heart.
4. The blood of Christ, and the Holy Ghost.

Enforce the teachings of:

1. A clean heart,
2. A clean life,
3. A pure conscience,
4. A sure heaven to follow.

To illustrate, use four pieces of linen about a yard square:

First piece very dirty and stained.

Second piece less so.

Third piece only a single spot.

Fourth piece perfectly clean.

Explain, the first three are unclean—degrees of uncleanness, but nevertheless all unclean; the last one only pure.

The great question:

Who desires purity of heart and life?

A KEY SOCIAL.—The keys are cut from pasteboard, the notches being of different shapes for each key. Write on the shaft of each key a Bible reference to a promise. Corresponding with the keys are folded sheets of paper, inside each of which is written one of the promises referred to on the keys. Cut a little door in one leaf of the paper. Trace on the door the outline of the notched part of one of the keys, and cut this outline out so that it will be hinged. As the Leaguers enter, give half of them keys and half of them the corresponding doors, instructing them to find those that match, insert their keys, and discover the promise on the other side of the open door. For the programme read from "Pilgrim's Progress" the story of Christian in Doubting Castle.

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THE LIFE SERVICE MEETING. Probably the meeting that requires the most prayerful preparation is what is known as the "Life Service Meeting."

It might be well to observe here that sometimes an opportunity comes for a Life Service Meeting that is not premeditated. Following some stirring address, it may be the wish of the Holy Spirit to call someone publicly to life service, for home or foreign missions or the ministry. On such an occasion, go right ahead. Honor the Spirit, and your results will be permanent.

But generally speaking, these meetings are carefully planned for. It is well to discuss the matter before the entire executive, so that all the programmes for a month or so previously will carry the theme along, and contribute to the aim in view. Have much prayer. The Prayer-Meeting Committees of the C.E. and Missionary Departments should give this special consideration. Plan for the executive to meet at the church on the evening for tea, and right afterward have an hour's prayer service. The general meeting could be planned to follow with the following programme:

A few minutes before opening time have the pianist play over softly "Where He Leads Me, I will Follow." (No opening prayer).

Consecration hymn

Six short-sentence prayers—pre-arranged.

All repeat the pledge.

Scripture lesson—Either 8th or 12th chapter of Romans.

Address on "Only One Life to Live."

Solo—"I Want My Life to Tell for Jesus."

Testimonies, short and quick.

Invitation hymn—preferably "Where He Leads"

Appeal—and this is where an experienced hand is necessary. The pastor or the president should present the matter concisely and quietly to the meeting and give an opportunity to all present who would be willing to invest their life for Christian service as the way may open to them, to now publicly manifest their consecration.

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Then have a season of prayer, closing with a hymn such as "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross."

Secure the names of all those who take their stand, and it is imperative that they be encouraged in their consecration. The pastor usually takes care of this. Such persons should be sent to Summer Schools and other opportunities for development made possible for them. Notify the Forward Movement, Methodist Training School, and Missionary Departments, sending names and addresses of the Life Service Volunteers. Real help will be extended to them by these departments.

***CURIOSITIES OF THE BIBLE.**—This is a programme for the Literary Department. Secure a copy of the large sheet diagram entitled "How God Gave Us the Bible," showing the development of the Bible since 2000 B.C. It is intensely interesting. This chart should be framed and kept in the League room on exhibition. Possibly arrangements could be made with the Upper Canada Bible Society, 12 College St., Toronto, for the loan of several Bible curiosities. Have one of the leaguers prepare a short address on "The Curiosities of the Bible," and collate interesting items such as:

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters;

773,746 words;

31,173 verses;

1,189 chapters;

66 books.

The word "and" occurs 46,277 times;

"Lord" 1,855 times;

"Jesus" 700 times in the gospels;

"Jesus" 69 times in the epistles;

"Reverend" once in 111th Psa., 9th v.

The middle verse in the Bible is 8th v. of 118th Psa.

The longest verse is the 9th verse of Esther, 8th chapter.

The shortest verse is 35th verse of John, 11th chapter.

To read the Bible through in a year, read 3 chapters daily and 5 on Sunday.

There are 2,300 words in the Bible that occur only once.

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Space will not permit giving many other features. In the back of many of our Bibles will be found information which will be interesting regarding the Bible.

Have all the hymns and vocal selections refer to the Word of God.

A CHINESE SOCIAL.—Chinese lanterns and bunting of yellow and black are the only decorations. Have several booths showing Chinese curios. Almost any church can secure from among the members and friends a splendid collection of these. Be sure to exhibit photographs of the missionary supported by your church or district, with other pictures of our work in China. It is interesting to arrange to have a letter from this missionary read at the meeting. Look up information regarding our work in China and present some of the many interesting facts. If a returned missionary is available, have him present to address the meeting. In this case, arrange to have the officers of the League meet with the missionary for supper either in the church or at the home of a friend, and this will have the effect of getting all very close together in fellowship before the evening's social. Introduce him to the meeting in a very special manner—and see that he gets a rousing reception. Have a Chinese song prepared, and if possible have the chorus on a blackboard so that all may "join in the chorus." An offering for missions can be received at the conclusion of the evening's programme. It would be a unique feature to have the refreshments consist of rice prepared in different ways, and use chop-sticks (made for the occasion). A great deal of fun will be provided by the friends endeavoring to eat the rice with these curious "things." The missionary will probably tell "how" the "trick" is done. A Japanese social can be easily arranged by following the same idea, substituting Japanese decorations, etc.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIAL.—One of the very best means of creating missionary interest is by "The Missionary Social." Wherever this programme has been given it has been a huge success. Spend an evening in a city in some missionary land, China, Japan, or any other country. Decorate the League

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room as nearly after the style of decoration of the country as possible. Collect curiosities and anything that will be representative of life and customs of that land. If a lantern is obtainable, give a short, **short**, illustrated talk covering the most interesting points regarding the country and our own missionary effort there. If you can have a missionary right from the field, so much the better. This will put real **live** interest in the meeting. Have recitations, songs, dialogues, or other features; if possible some of these in the language of the country.

Parliament of Missions

GOVERNMENT
 Chairman: General Mr. Chas. Gately
 Speaker: S. J. Manchester

Parliament of Missions

A Very Interesting Evening for You

You are cordially invited to attend this
 Parliament which will be held on

Tuesday Evening, December 16th

in Rhodes Ave. Presbyterian Church
 commencing at 8 o'clock

Each member of the Government and Oppo-
 sition will speak. Do not fail to hear them
 Every minute full of interest

YOUR OPPORTUNITY
 to attend Parliament

OPPOSITION
 Leader: J. David

An Address by
 Rev. Mr. J. J. J.

A MISSIONARY TOUR. For one of the regular League meetings a "missionary tour" might be arranged. Select four, five, or six homes at convenient points around the community. Arrange a room in each home to represent some foreign or home aspect of our missionary enterprises, placing each in charge of a committee of two, who will dress in the costume of the country represented by that home. Then arrange for the trip. Having conveyances leave the church at stated times, going the rounds of all the homes, spending say ten minutes at each, where the "natives" will explain the customs, etc., of the people. This will take about an hour altogether for each party. Arrange the parties ten minutes apart. When they arrive back at the League room, the tables for the evening can be spent

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in social activities, games after the custom of the various countries being much enjoyed.

THE WORLD AND MISSION EXHIBITION.—The holding of a Missionary Exhibit, or "World and Missions" Exhibition" will prove to be a big feature. While this entails a great deal of work, yet the results accomplished are so profitable that the League is well repaid for undertaking it. The idea is to organize for a two or three nights' exhibition, covering a given number of countries, say China, Japan, India, South Sea Islands, South America, etc. Exhibits may be secured from friends in the church. The large Sunday School room would be divided off and each country represented in its section, being decorated after the fashion of their customs. An admission fee could be charged, and a general invitation being extended to all the friends of the community, a very substantial income could be realized. But that is not the real worth of this idea. Each evening a tea might be arranged, when an address might be arranged for by one of the connexional officers or a returned missionary. The educational and inspirational value of such a programme is very great. It might be arranged to have other churches co-operate and have a big inter-denominational affair that would create wonderful interest.

THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD.—Decorate with the flags of "all nations." Arrange for the following features:

Music—National anthems of nations represented

Vocal—Several anthems in the native tongue

Short 3-minute addresses on each country, those taking part dressed according to the custom of the land represented

Final address on "The Progress of Christianity throughout the World."

THE CALL OF THE NATIONS.—This programme is one of exceptional merit, teaching the fact that to every young Christian comes the call to service, and it definitely directs the interest toward the missionary enterprise. The *Orillia Times* says, reporting its presentation in the Methodist Church there: "In its teaching and in its appeal it was a forceful presentation of the need of the world for 'Gospel Light.' Thus it will be

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seen that this is an all-round missionary programme. The story was planned by the author, and the parts written by Mrs. Wm. Edmunds (nee Miss Emma Galloway, of Westmoreland, Toronto). Write the Young People's Forward Movement, Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto, for information. This is a programme that could very well be put on for several evenings in some of our larger churches.

In giving suggestions for a social gathering, "Youth and Service," April, 1920, mentioned several interesting games for the smaller Leagues, where all the members may take part together:

TELEGRAM SOCIAL.—Divide the company into couples by matching cards, numbers, or by any other device. Give each person a piece of paper and pencil. On it he will write his partner's name (and she will write her partner's name), and compose a telegram, using the letters of the name, in order, as the initial letters of the words in the telegram. After a given time these will be read.

GUESSING NAMES.—Before the meeting have written on slips of paper the names of well-known people (one name on each slip). At the meeting pin a slip on the back of each person. The idea is for each one to guess the name on the slip by asking questions which must be answered by only "Yes" or "No." When the correct name is guessed, the slip will be taken from the back and pinned on the front of the dress or coat.

COLLECTING BEANS.—Each member will be presented with an envelope containing one dozen beans. Each person will try to gain beans from the others by so questioning them that they answer by "Yes" or "No." Whenever anyone says "Yes" or "No" he must forfeit a bean to the person who forced these words from him. At a specified time each one will count his beans, and see who has the most and who the fewest.

A GAME WITH CLOTHESPINS. Two sides face each other. A basket, which contains twelve clothespins, is at the end of each line. Each player must hold the next player's left hand,

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thus, everyone's right hand is free for passing. The pins are passed down the line one at a time. If one is dropped, the person who dropped it must pick it up and pass it on. When the last player gets the pin, he puts it on the floor until the twelve are there. Then he starts them back in the same way. The side which finishes first is the winner.

ILLUSTRATED LITERARY PROGRAMMES.—This provides a most interesting and profitable evening's entertainment. Catalogue and full information regarding slides and lectures may be had by writing to the Art Photography Department, Methodist Book Room, Toronto.

A TROPICAL EVENING.—If the Arctic idea makes a good summertime social, why not a tropical evening in the winter time. The room should be banked with palms, and wreathed with garlands of leaves from which paper lanterns, preferably all of one color, say pink or pale yellow, are hung. Hammocks are swung and wicker reclining-chairs figure prominently. Have an electric light so arranged as to suggest a large summer moon. Young men who play the mandolin or other string instruments should be induced to contribute plaintive negro melodies. All-white costumes should be worn, as this detail adds much. Charge ten cents admission "to the tropics," and afterward retail iced coffee and frothed chocolate with sandwiches and cakes at five cents a portion. It adds much to the fun and realism of the affair if growing boys can be induced to black themselves with burnt cork and act as waiters.

A CAMERA NIGHT.—In every League are those who take a great interest in the camera. In fact in some Leagues the camera has come to provide a feature of League interest and training that is most interesting and profitable. It cultivates an appreciation of the beautiful in nature. Early in the year announce that in the coming fall there will be a "Camera Night," when a prize or prizes will be awarded for the best amateur picture taken in the meantime, on any subject whatever. Splendid pictures will be secured during the summer at picnics, summer schools, trips, hikes, etc., etc., and these can

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be handed in to a committee several weeks before the evening of the exhibit. The winners will be chosen by this committee of judges, but not announced until the evening of the "Camera Night." Arrange all the snaps on exhibition, using large sheets of cardboard for the purpose. Have these artistically arranged around the walls of the room, or on easels throughout the room. Announce that a prize will be given for the person guessing who the prize winners will be, that is picking out the picture that wins the first prize, second or third, as the case might be. Secure as a speaker some person experienced in photography, and he will draw attention to pictures that are entitled to special mention, showing the points in them that are worthy of note; and in other pictures he will show where improvement might have been obtained, etc. He should take an ordinary kodak and show the leaguers how to use it under different circumstances. In some Leagues the winning pictures might be reproduced on slides and thrown on to the screen which would assist the speaker in his criticism and commendations. Musical selections, etc., should be included in this programme.

AN APPLE EVENING.—For this social the committee will provide a number of apples, as many as are needed to carry out the following ideas:

A naming contest may well be the first bit of fun, taking place while the latecomers are arriving. Place on a table in the centre of the room samples of as many different kinds of apples as you can obtain. Number them, and give the Leaguers slips of paper bearing the same numbers. They are to fill out the slips with the names of the apples, each working independently, and the winner is to receive an especially fine apple, being required to eat it on the spot.

Bobbing for apples in a tub of water may be the next game, followed by a race in apple-eating under the following circumstances: Hang from the ceiling by their stems a number of apples, each at the height of a person's mouth. Choose a Leaguer for each apple, and at a given signal, with their hands tied behind their backs, they are to attempt to eat the apples, using only their mouths. The one that first eats his apple (all but the core) will receive a picture of a blossoming

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apple-tree prettily colored, or some other picture equally appropriate.

Next, you may have a talk on the different kinds of apples, their history and their qualities, given by a dealer in apples or an apple-grower, or, lacking this, have a talk by some Leaguer who has read up on the subject.

Next, distribute knives and apples and tell the members that they are to carve their apples into heads. Appoint a committee of three judges or take a popular vote on the subject, and with a neat speech place on the head of the successful "sculptor" a crown of apple peelings!

Another carving contest may follow, the Leaguers seeing who can cut the word "Epworth" in the skin of an apple in the most artistic way. Of course after this stunt, as well as after the first apple-carving, each Leaguer will be permitted to eat the apple he has carved!

Pass around slips of paper on which are the names of apples, each name in a jumble, such as "sew a pin" for "winesap." Reward with an apple pincushion the one who solves most of the anagrams.

The evening's refreshments may be doughnuts and applesauce.

THE GATE SOCIAL is interesting.—This will call for some special preparation, and is arranged as follows: Just inside of the League room erect a little fence, with the gate set in. A few boughs arranged around will make this look quite realistic. Evergreens and flowers should be arranged profusely throughout the room. Put a sign on the gate "Please do not swing on this gate; come inside." A short programme should open the proceedings. Then will follow the conundrums. This contest may be arranged in one of two ways. One is to arrange all the conundrums on sheets of paper, numbering each sheet, handing one to each young lady. Then give cards, numbered correspondingly, to each young man. He will proceed to find the young lady with the corresponding number, and together they will endeavor to solve the conundrums. Twenty minutes may be allowed for this, and then the sheets are each exchanged and checked, some one announcing the answers. The one having

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the most correct answers gets a prize—the one with the least answers has to contribute to the programme impromptu. The other plan for this game is: Give one question on paper to each young lady. Give one answer to each young man. Let the possessor of the question seek the answer, and together they will spend the evening. The one finding the answer first gets a prize, and the couple left last to contribute a duet impromptu. This will provide wholesome amusement.

What gate proclaims and publishes? Promulgate.

What gate unyokes and sets free? Abjugate.

A gate of an enquiring turn. Interrogate.

A gate which punishes severely. Castigate.

A gate full of wrinkles. Corrugate.

A gate which acts as an ambassador. Legate.

A gate which travels by water. Navigate.

A gate which makes claims. Arrogate.

A gate which repeals law. Abrogate.

A gate which increases in length. Elongate.

A gate which goes to law. Litigate.

A gate which soothes and alleviates. Mitigate.

A gate which conquers and subdues. Subjugate.

A gate which places itself under bonds. Obligate.

A gate which separates. Segregate.

A gate acting as a representative. Delegate.

A gate which cleanses and purifies. Fumigate.

A gate which sends people into exile. Relegate.

A gate which waters. Irrigate.

A gate of many colors. Variegate.

A gate which assembles. Congregate.

A gate which seeks knowledge. Investigate.

A gate which produces its kind. Promulgate.

A gate which includes the whole. Aggregate.

A gate which sails the seas. Frigate.

During the refreshments which should follow this, arrange some tableaux depicting perhaps Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter, or any other chosen subjects. In leaving the room, after the programme, as each one passes through the gate, they are to be given an envelope, in which is "a wish," written on

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paper. Associate the wish with some phase of League work, such as "Our wish for you is that you may avail yourself often of the associations provided by the Epworth League," or "Our wish for you is that you may grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ your Saviour."

THE FLAG.—An excellent programme can be arranged, giving a concise, illustrated history of the Union Jack and the Canadian Ensign. Secure a copy of "The Flag," by C. P. Band and E. L. Stovel, from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto. This contains a constructive article, with designs showing the "growth" of the flag. The many illustrations are large enough to be easily seen in most League rooms. Decorate the room with British flags **only**. Have several patriotic vocal and piano selections. If a Victrola is obtainable, selections by leading British bands could be added to the programme.

AN EVENING WITH MISS FRANCIS E. WILLARD.—Decorate the League room entirely with white—using flowers of white color for tables and window ledges. Have a large "white bow" arranged over the platform, with a large picture of Miss Willard in the centre.

Sing "How Firm a Foundation."

Some young woman give a sketch of Miss Willard's life. Tell how Miss Willard found conditions when she undertook her life's work, in 1874.

Cover the progress of prohibition up to the time of her death in 1898.

Cover the progress of prohibition in every land since that year.

This will provide a very profitable programme. Miss Willard was a woman called of God, who preached Christ in politics, Christ in the home, the equality of purity in men and women, the liberation of the oppressed, the upbuilding of all that was great in home, government and nation.

A CANADIAN EVENING.—Here is an opportunity for the Citizenship Department to put on a most instructive and intensely interesting programme. Let all the decorations be

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entirely emblematic of Canada—Canadian flags, hockey sticks, lacrosse sticks, paddles, a big canoe suspended from the ceiling, and many other decorations. Have the friends meet in some room other than the League room, line up in twos, and to the strains of "The Maple Leaf" march into the League room, to be seated as they enter, guided by several ushers. When all are in their places then sing "The Maple Leaf," and when the last line of the last chorus is reached have three rousing cheers for Canada. Then will follow a programme, providing selections from Canadian history, arranged in continuous story fashion (probably taken from "His Dominion"), interspersed with solos, recitations, school songs, etc., etc., and culminating with a short stirring address on, say, "Our Present Day Duty to Canada." Then close with "God Save the King," and three cheers again.

A FESTIVAL OF THE TRADES.—We are indebted to "Eighty Pleasant Evenings," for this idea, which we have altered slightly. This would be a suitable programme for Labor Day, or any time in September would be all right—possibly Citizenship Evening. Present the "Anvil Chorus" from "Il Trovatore," having young men dressed as blacksmiths, with red flannel shirts and leather aprons, hammer in hand, enter and sing the chorus to piano accompaniment. For leather aprons substitute brown wrapping paper. One or two anvils to be provided, and during the refrain the time is marked by regular blows. A short literary programme to be provided. A leading labor man could be secured to give a 15-minute address on some live, up-to-the-minute labor issue. Statistics as to what compose labor organizations in Canada would be interesting. It will present an opportunity of promoting a sane understanding of what organized labor stands for. Other features than these suggestions may be more suitable for some Leagues, such as having several addresses of five minutes' duration by the young men and women on such subjects as "Why I am a Printer," or "Why I like the Bakery Trade," or "Why I am a Stenographer," or "Why I am a School Teacher." Real good reasons will be given as the different ones bring out what they believe to be the good points of their profession.

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A TRENCH NIGHT.—The following interesting programme was arranged by Mr. B. Farthing, Toronto, and drew a large crowd out to the League meeting. It will draw the returned soldiers to the League. It is arranged in three scenes, and the programme should be interspersed with patriotic vocal and instrumental music. A curtain should be used on the platform so as to keep the scenes from view until arranged for presentation.

Scene 1 shows a group of veterans around a camp fire, "somewhere in France." This camp fire can be realistic by the use of coals laid loosely over some electric lights with red bulbs. Decorate the scene with helmets, rifles, etc. Have candle light on a box. The boys sit on boxes or on the floor. Use the regular trench slang expressions—the returned boys know how. Amusement is provided by occasionally the boys stopping to look for "something" inside their shirt sleeve. This scene reaches its climax by the Orderly Sergeant coming in and giving orders for the duties of the following day. Two of the boys are also arrested for disobeying orders.

Scene 2 gives the trial in the orderly room. Have some member of the League write up this part of the programme, bringing out the necessity for co-operation and loyalty, "just like we had in our Epworth League over 'ome." Concludes by the prisoners being sentenced to six months' F.P. No. 1.

Scene 3 brings them all back to their "bivvy" again, where a discussion takes place about religion and a certain chaplain. Have each boy show varying degrees of interest in the padre's work. Finally the padre drops in, and the conversation drifts around to the question of the Church and the soldier. Have Christ portrayed as the great example of manliness and advance the interests of the Church in its great work of bringing men to Him. Have the padre show Christ to be "the strong young man," our ideal. Suggest that the church-goer show more interest in the returned soldier along social lines—brother to him, as it were. Show how many men have actually given their lives for Christianity, just as much as in the late great war. Mention some of the martyrs. Mention the men who to-day are in the dark places of the earth in the greatest of all battles

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against the armies of Satan. Then have the padre close with a strong appeal to the boys to stand true to the Church and the League when they return home. "You came to France to win; go home to win." A very impressive climax can be given to this programme.

The idea is to show how the League can help the young men and how the young men can help the League.

At this service refer to the members of the League who went overseas, giving the complete list, name by name, making special mention first of those who gave their lives; second, those who were wounded; and finally the names of those who returned unharmed. Other references can be made as may seem fitting. Make a good deal of these boys who so nobly placed their lives at the service of God and humanity in the Great War. If your League or church has not already erected a tablet to the honor of these soldiers, here is your opportunity of doing so, and this will add additional interest to the evening's programme.

DEBATES.

We are all ready to recognize the value of the old-fashioned and yet ever new, debate. It is in the debate that people of apparently little ability surprise us. It is in the debate that many a leaguer commences a career that ultimately makes him competent of taking his place on the public platforms of the world. Mention could be made of many prominent men to-day who really did commence their public speaking as leaguers on the League programme. Hon. N. W. Rowell was one of the earlier Epworth Leaguers, and it was great to hear him "put it over" in a debate. Mr. H. C. Hocken, who was appointed Mayor of Toronto on occasions, was an Epworth Leaguer, and his ability as a speaker is well known. There are many other prominent men, outside of the ministry, who attribute their taking part in the League debates, etc., directly to the development of their ability to perform public service as speakers. In preparing debates do not always select the best speakers. Arrange for a strong and a weaker speaker to be associated on each side, and be sure to use the League members.

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Two speakers are appointed for each side—the affirmative and the negative. Each speaker is allowed 5 or 10 minutes, commencing first with the affirmative, then one from the negative, then the second affirmative speaker, and finally the second negative speaker. The first affirmative speaker is then given 3 minutes for a reply. Three judges previously appointed now retire to arrive at a verdict as to which side wins. Their report is final.

Rules for debates—Procure Robert's "Rule of Order"; also see "How to Conduct Public Meetings in Canada," by H. G. MacGill. Both books on sale at the Book Room, Toronto.

The following are suggestions as subjects for debates:—

Resolved, that "Disciple" is a better designation of a Christian than the name "Believer."

Resolved, that men are just as much called to serve God in business as in the ministry.

Resolved, that the home is a more potent factor in Christianity than the Church.

Resolved, that the Church should establish social substitutes for the saloon.

Resolved, that we can to-day understand Jesus better than did Peter and John.

Resolved, that Jesus' idea on standard of greatness is the standard of the world to-day more than ever before.

Resolved, that Peter's life is more helpful to the man of to-day than the life of John is.

Resolved, that it is expedient for Canada to build a navy, rather than contribute ships or money to the British Navy.

Resolved, that the idea behind the League of Nations is sound.

Resolved, that the farmers of Canada are justified in their efforts to gain political control.

Resolved, that Canada should make every effort to obtain a closer form of Imperial relationship.

Resolved, that John Wesley exerted a more beneficial influence on mankind than did Martin Luther.

Resolved, that the union of all Protestant churches would be in the interests of God's cause.

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Debates regarding local issues will prove very profitable—and will be a means of showing leaguers local conditions and bring to their attention ways and means of improving conditions. These debates will not only be attractive to the League members, but you will find that outsiders, town or city officials, etc., will take an interest. In a certain League, the subject of the debate was "Resolved, that our section of the city is being neglected in the good roads policy." Out came the aldermen of that section of the city to hear that debate—and the result was that a delegation of ratepayers was then and there appointed to wait upon the proper authorities and urge that certain improvements be proceeded with forthwith. And they were. Another League got action out of the church officials, and the church was repainted and decorated following a debate on the subject, "Resolved, that our church is so dilapidated that the public do not like to come to the services."

Make the debates educational and inspirational. Three young men were led to offer their lives to the ministry because of the sound arguments brought out in a debate, "Resolved, that the ministry is a more profitable life work, than being in business."

Subjects for Discussion in League Meetings.

The "Open Forum" programme will often prove very interesting. The idea is: After the opening exercises, the chairman to announce the subject, give a brief review thereof, and then declare the meeting open, inviting free discussion of the subject. Have two or three persons posted previously, so that the discussion will get a good start. Guide the meeting, more or less, by keeping the speakers to the subject, allowing from 3 to 5 minutes for each speaker. Have two or three judges to keep tab on the different points brought out, and then have them report at the conclusion of the discussion. This programme can be worked out for one evening during the year for each department.

Another method is to prepare 10 slips, numbered from 1 to 10, handed to members on entering the room, giving each a different phase of the subject as a text, and then having them speak in order.

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Still another novel idea is to hand out about 25 slips after the meeting is open. Only 10 are numbered. Then proceed as above. No one knows until they get a numbered slip whether they are chosen or not.

The following are suggested subjects:—

What is the meaning of "faith"?

Is denominationalism helpful to the cause of Christianity?

How can our League extend its usefulness in this community?

How can our church contribute more effectively to the improvement of this community?

Is dancing conducive to the development of the Christian character?

What are the characteristics that make the Bible the greatest book in the world?

Which contributes most to a person's happiness—education or wealth?

Will the future of the world be safer under democracy or a military tribunal?

What do you consider the greatest invention, and why?

Which is the most popular, the Old or New Testament, and why?

Other subjects can be arranged dealing with questions of local interest. Some real live local issue will make a meeting of this character not only interesting, but profitable.

A League once undertook a discussion on the subject, "The Poolroom." The result was that certain local conditions were made bare to the public mind, and a movement was started that meant the closing of a most disreputable "joint" in the town, and many a young man was thus directly benefitted. In another case "Local Improvement" was the discussion, and the result was a committee from the society waited on the town council and some much needed improvements were made that contributed greatly to the beauty of the town streets.

OBJECT LESSONS FOR JUNIORS.—Splendid leaflets outlining profitable, interesting object lessons for Junior meetings are published by Mr. Charles Eickenberg, 4029 North Hermitage Ave., Chicago. Other books are obtainable from the

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Methodist Book Room, Toronto. Chalk talks are very interesting, and easily prepared, too, as anyone who can draw fairly well can follow the outlines and present the message as they proceed. The following books are suggested:

"Chalk," by Ella N. Wood.

"Crayon and Character," by Bert I. Griswold.

"Through Eye-Gate to Heart-Gate," containing 100 original lessons, by Hy. Pickering. This is an exceptional book.

Use your own original Object Lessons just as soon as you are sufficiently experienced to do so. This is important.

GET ACQUAINTED TAG



A new and unique "Get Acquainted" Tag. Suitable for Conventions, Rallies, Socials, Summer Schools, etc. Size as illustration. Printed on suitable white card stock. Wording in blue ink and hole for string or cord. May be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto.

CHAPTER XXVI.

DOING THINGS THE OTHER WAY.

DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND LEADER.—Write the programme on the blackboard, no announcing of any kind to be permitted, not even announcements, nor opening or closing.

THE MEMORY MEETING.—All the books, the Bibles, the wall pledge, etc., to be removed from the room. Every one taking part does so from memory. Play piano from memory; sing, speak and give the lesson from memory. Try it.

BREAK THE ICE.—If the meeting opens cold and clammy, try this: "Let us sing Hymn No. 156, and will Mr. Jones, sitting over there (point to him), please stand up and read the first verse over first"? He will, and everybody else will be awake, too.

THE "JERICHO PLAN."—Can't get him, eh? Well, have one leaguer per day for a week invite him to League. Then on the day of the meeting have every one of the seven try to meet, phone, or write him, urging him to be out to the meeting that night. And—he'll be there.

TOO FORMAL.—Then just as you are about to open the meeting move your chair and the table to the back of the room, tell the folks to turn their chairs all around and go ahead with your meeting. The back seat disciples will be the fronters, and vice versa. Try this, it works fine.

THE USE OF THE LANTERN.—For song services the lantern is fine, but the tendency is to confine the singing to too few hymns, whereas we should learn as many of the New Canadian Hymnal songs as possible. Have a lantern, but with plenty of new hymns "on tap" all the time. The wide-awake Music Committee will watch this.

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THE NOISY BACK ROW.—There is usually a "back-row bunch" in every League. Talk? They are always at it. How to break them of this habit is the problem. Try this. Let the "On Time Tribe" monopolize the back seats. 'Twill push the rest toward the front. One League tried this, and the president told the meeting "why" it was done. Result, the back seat row were won over.

THE "ON TIME TRIBE."—Have you an "On Time Tribe" in your League? Many a League meeting is really spoiled by so many friends coming in late. The truth is that many meetings are started late, and when once the habit is formed, 'tis very hard to correct. Start **on time**, let the "On Time Tribe" enroll as many members as possible who solemnly promise to be **in their seats** by the opening minute. Note the effect this will have on your League.



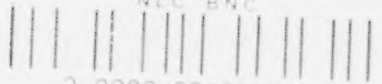
The above motto, which may be obtained from the Methodist Book Room, Toronto, possesses the ability to awaken an interest and readiness to fall in line with the spirit of it.

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